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OF
The Methodist Protestant Church



Special Session

HELD IN

Columbus, Ohio

July 15-16

1914



MINUTES AND STENOGRAPHIC REPORT

METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
LAKE JUNALUSKA, N. C.

Journal
of the
Special Session
of the
Twenty-first Quadrennial
General Conference
of the
Methodist Protestant Church

Held in the City of
Columbus, Ohio

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LAKE JUNALUSKA, N. C.

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Ministerial

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Lay

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Ministerial

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Lay

- *Jacob Roberts, Ponemah, Ill.
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MINUTES.

Columbus, Ohio, July 15, 1914.

Morning Session, 10 o'clock A. M.

The General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church met in the First Church, Columbus, Ohio, pursuant to an action of the General Conference taken on Saturday, May 25, 1912, recorded in Journal, page 27; more than two-thirds of the Annual Conferences joining in the call; and more than a majority of the Annual Conference Presidents designating this time and place for this meeting.

The President, Dr. Lyman E. Davis, was in the chair, and the Secretary, Rev. Charles H. Beck, at the desk.

THE PRESIDENT: The special session of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church will come to order. Devotional exercises will be conducted by Rev. Dr. Sinkinson, President of the Eastern Conference.

DR. SINKINSON: Let us sing No. 312. (Singing) Dr. Stephens, will you lead us in prayer?

DR. STEPHENS: Oh, God, we pray Thee that Thy spirit will now rest upon us and prepare us to do the great and responsible work that has been committed unto us. Grant, O God, that we may all enter into the activities of this hour with a due sense of the responsibility that rests upon us; may we so know our trust in Thy will, so we may be so open in mind and in heart that whatever we do shall have the seal of Thine approval; that whatever we do shall contribute to the up-building of Thy kingdom on the earth, and we pray, O God, that if there are divisions of opinion, if we are not able to see eye to eye in all things, nevertheless may we be one in spirit, may we be united in one purpose, the glory of God and the establishment of His name among us.

Bless, we pray Thee, all we have done. If in anything we have erred, if in anything we are short-sighted, grant, O God, that Thy supreme wisdom may lead us out of our difficulties, and may we at last be enabled to say that we have conscientiously and honestly endeavored to do the work Thou hast assigned to us.

Bless, we pray, him who is presiding over us. Give him, O God, that repose of mind, that wisdom of judgment, that will enable him to decide all questions as Thou wouldst have him decide, and be with those, O God, who enter into these deliberations. May they be prompted by a sense of responsibility unto Thee, and may all that is done contribute to the establishment of Thy kingdom here below, and may Thy blessing rest upon Thy church throughout the world; may Thy truth be more and more established in the hearts and in the institutions of men. Grant, we pray, that the time may come when the spirit of our Master shall direct and govern all men in their conduct. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: Let us sing No. 393. (Singing, "Onward Christian Soldiers.")

DR. SINKINSON: Let us again seek wisdom at the throne of grace. Dr. Broomfield, will you lead us in prayer?

DR. BROOMFIELD: Almighty God, Our Heavenly Father, as we approach Thee at this hour, it is very comforting to us to know

Texas

<i>Ministerial</i>	<i>Lay</i>
*T. L. Garrison, Tehuacana, Texas	W. M. Moody, Tehuacana, Texas
J. E. Butler, Cooper, Texas	S. E. Womack

Tennessee

<i>Ministerial</i>	<i>Lay</i>
S. E. Kendall, Gleason, Tenn.	B. F. Jarrell, Eagleville, Tenn.

Virginia

<i>Ministerial</i>	<i>Lay</i>
John C. Posten, R. R. Lynch- burg, Va.	D. A. Duff, Alvarado, Va.

West Virginia

<i>Ministerial</i>	<i>Lay</i>
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*A. F. Hess, West Lafayette, Ohio	Dr. L. L. McKinney, Burnsville, W. Va.
*Geo. R. Brown, Westminster, Md.	*C. D. Barbe, Morgantown, W. Va.
*J. N. Holt, R Lost Creek, W. Va.	*J. C. Roane, Weston, W. Va.
*J. Jay Phillips, Bridgeport, W. Va.	D. D. Casto, Buckhannon, W. Va.
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*U. W. Morrison, 324 Stealey Ave., Clarksburg, W. Va.	*Dr. J. B. Watson, St. Mary's, W. Va.
J. I. Vincent, Glenville, W. Va.	*J. H. Long, Heaters, W. Va.
	*Green Ruttencutter, 1708 19th St., Parkersburg, W. Va.

* Indicates that representative named was present at the special session

will help us to answer that prayer that we may all be one, and His kingdom shall come.

Help us to overcome our discouragements, give us a broad vision, and help us to look out upon the fields white for the harvest. Enable us, we pray, to bury our prejudices and our private interests; we pray that the human will shall be submitted to the divine love of Jesus Christ, and lifted up until we can see as Jesus sees. Help us to recognize the helplessness of humanity; that men are without salvation may that be our one thought, and help us to realize anew that only when the great army of Jesus Christ is united can we successfully fight the great foes.

We believe we are at a crisis today. We have come to the place of history making. We have come to the place where God's name can be glorified and Jesus lifted up. We have come to the place where many eyes are watching us. Perhaps this will be the turning point in the history of many denominations. Help us to believe that with God all things are possible, and may our great desire be gloriously realized and may we so work that we shall bring together all the members of our church and other sections of the great church of Jesus Christ, and we pray that this may be the beginning of glorious days when the great army of the Lord Jesus Christ shall be united against the foes of the kingdom. We ask these things, not because we are seeking our own wills, but because we want the name of Jesus to be supreme at home and abroad and in all the earth. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: Let us sing No. 42, three verses. (Singing). Let us again pray. Let us have a few brief voluntary prayers. We need to be much in prayer. Will someone voluntarily lead us in a brief prayer?

A MEMBER: Our Father, we pray that Thy Spirit shall lead in all that shall be done in this session of our General Conference, and be in our minds and hearts, and may the Spirit of Christ abound.

DR. SINKINSON: Another.

A MEMBER: Our Father, Thou hast told us to seek Thy blessing and we are seeking that blessing now.

A MEMBER: Our Father, in all our ways, help us to acknowledge Thee and keep us in Thy Spirit.

A MEMBER: O Heavenly Father, Thou hast taught us to seek wisdom from Thee. Lead every heart and every will to do Thy will and grant to make it known unto us; and grant Thy will may be done and may Thy name be glorified in this session.

DR. SINKINSON: Someone else. Don't waste a moment. Dr. Miller.

DR. MILLER: Our Father, Who art in Heaven, we are gathered together here in Thy name and in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. We humbly ask the leading of Thy Holy Spirit. We believe Thou art here, for Thou hast promised that where two or three are gathered together in His name, there am I in the midst of them. We pray Thee, our Father, that what may be done here may be in the real interest of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ on earth. We ask Thy blessing on Dr. Davis. Thou hast been leading him with the spirit of wisdom and power, continue Thou with him. Be with every member of this conference, and we pray Thee, Our Father, that everything that is done may be done without bitterness, without thought of personal ambition, with an eye only to the interest of Thy kingdom. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: Our Father in Heaven, we tarry still at Thy feet. While we pray, men all through the church are praying. Things are resting heavily on their hearts. Grant we may be true to Thy trust. Take away from us even the appearance of selfishness and give us the spirit of our Master, and may we seek to be great through service. We thank Thee for the privilege of service, and for the joy of service. Help us to serve faithfully. We

that Thou art an omniscient God, and because Thou knowest all things, we do not feel under obligation to explain to Thee at this time why we have gathered in this sanctuary. Thou knowest, O God, we have been much in prayer in the recent past because of this special gathering of our General Conference. We have felt, O Lord, our own inability to solve the problems involved in this gathering. We have not hesitated to acknowledge our inability, but rather have we gone forward at the behest of faith because our confidence has been in Thee. Thou hast said in Thy Word, "Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you." We are asking this morning to be led by Thee; we are seeking divine wisdom from on high; we are knocking at Thy door in order that we may be given that charity that shall enable us to recognize that might does not always make right. Help us to keep an eye single to Thy glory, and if it is right that this union shall be made, help us, in the fear of God, to do and to pray in order that we may know that it is right; and, if it be not right, help us, O God, to bow, even in the midst of our own shattered ambitions and say, "The will of the Lord be done."

We regret, O Lord, that this General Conference is not as full as it ought to be. We have been singing, O Lord, "We are not divided." We regret the fact that we are divided this morning, but we can only ask, Our Father, that in the midst of this division that we may preserve the Christ-like spirit, so that God shall be able to use us for his glory and for the extension of the kingdom.

We pray for Thy blessing especially upon our executive officer this morning. O God, if there is a man who needs Thy help, Dr. Davis is that man at this hour. We know from conferences with him that his confidence in Thee is needed by all. We thank Thee for the strength of his spirit. We thank Thee for his willingness, and we can only ask that his Christ-like attitude towards this whole problem may be felt by every member of this General Conference, so that as we sit together we shall not only be sitting in this building dedicated to the glory of God, but best of all, we shall sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

O God, help every man of us so to conduct himself during these hours that when the benediction shall have been pronounced, each shall have as much respect for the other, and as much love for the other as we now have; that while we may not be able to see together, yet we shall walk hand in hand together for the glory of God.

O God, bless the brethren who are absent this morning. May Thy Spirit be there as well as with us, and in the near future, O God, may there be a meeting place—not far in the distance, so we shall be able to sing in truth, "We are not divided, all one body we." In Jesus' name and for his sake we ask it. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: Let us sing No. 15. (Singing, "Come, Thou Almighty King") Dr. Perry, will you lead us in prayer?

DR. PERRY: Thou hast commanded us, O God, to be blameless and harmless, the sons of God without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom we are to shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life.

We are more conscious at this hour than ever before in the history of our lives that of ourselves we are insufficient, and we are more conscious than ever before that our sufficiency is in Christ Jesus. We thank Thee for a blessed assurance that in the innermost recesses of our souls that we are in touch with the great Leader of the army of God. We thank Thee for the great prayer when we pray that we might all be one. We regret today the division in the great Church of Jesus Christ. We believe that these are the hindrances that are keeping us from glorious victories. That while we daily have victories, when our great Leader shall bring us closer together then shall we be fully under the leadership of Jesus Christ, and He

will help us to answer that prayer that we may all be one, and His kingdom shall come.

Help us to overcome our discouragements, give us a broad vision, and help us to look out upon the fields white for the harvest. Enable us, we pray, to bury our prejudices and our private interests; we pray that the human will shall be submitted to the divine love of Jesus Christ, and lifted up until we can see as Jesus sees. Help us to recognize the helplessness of humanity; that men are without salvation may that be our one thought, and help us to realize anew that only when the great army of Jesus Christ is united can we successfully fight the great foes.

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DR. SINKINSON: Someone else. Don't waste a moment. Dr. Miller.

DR. MILLER: Our Father, Who art in Heaven, we are gathered together here in Thy name and in the name of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. We humbly ask the leading of Thy Holy Spirit. We believe Thou art here, for Thou hast promised that where two or three are gathered together in His name, there am I in the midst of them. We pray Thee, our Father, that what may be done here may be in the real interest of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ on earth. We ask Thy blessing on Dr. Davis. Thou hast been leading him with the spirit of wisdom and power, continue Thou with him. Be with every member of this conference, and we pray Thee, Our Father, that everything that is done may be done without bitterness, without thought of personal ambition, with an eye only to the interest of Thy kingdom. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: Our Father in Heaven, we tarry still at Thy feet. While we pray, men all through the church are praying. Things are resting heavily on their hearts. Grant we may be true to Thy trust. Take away from us even the appearance of selfishness and give us the spirit of our Master, and may we seek to be great through service. We thank Thee for the privilege of service, and for the joy of service. Help us to serve faithfully. We

that Thou art an omniscient God, and because Thou knowest all things, we do not feel under obligation to explain to Thee at this time why we have gathered in this sanctuary. Thou knowest, O God, we have been much in prayer in the recent past because of this special gathering of our General Conference. We have felt, O Lord, our own inability to solve the problems involved in this gathering. We have not hesitated to acknowledge our inability, but rather have we gone forward at the behest of faith because our confidence has been in Thee. Thou hast said in Thy Word, "Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you." We are asking this morning to be led by Thee; we are seeking divine wisdom from on high; we are knocking at Thy door in order that we may be given that charity that shall enable us to recognize that might does not always make right. Help us to keep an eye single to Thy glory, and if it is right that this union shall be made, help us, in the fear of God, to do and to pray in order that we may know that it is right; and, if it be not right, help us, O God, to bow, even in the midst of our own shattered ambitions and say, "The will of the Lord be done."

We regret, O Lord, that this General Conference is not as full as it ought to be. We have been singing, O Lord, "We are not divided." We regret the fact that we are divided this morning, but we can only ask, Our Father, that in the midst of this division that we may preserve the Christ-like spirit, so that God shall be able to use us for his glory and for the extension of the kingdom.

We pray for Thy blessing especially upon our executive officer this morning. O God, if there is a man who needs Thy help, Dr. Davis is that man at this hour. We know from conferences with him that his confidence in Thee is needed by all. We thank Thee for the strength of his spirit. We thank Thee for his willingness, and we can only ask that his Christ-like attitude towards this whole problem may be felt by every member of this General Conference, so that as we sit together we shall not only be sitting in this building dedicated to the glory of God, but best of all, we shall sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

O God, help every man of us so to conduct himself during these hours that when the benediction shall have been pronounced, each shall have as much respect for the other, and as much love for the other as we now have; that while we may not be able to see together, yet we shall walk hand in hand together for the glory of God.

O God, bless the brethren who are absent this morning. May Thy Spirit be there as well as with us, and in the near future, O God, may there be a meeting place—not far in the distance, so we shall be able to sing in truth, "We are not divided, all one body we." In Jesus' name and for his sake we ask it. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: Let us sing No. 15. (Singing, "Come, Thou Almighty King") Dr. Perry, will you lead us in prayer?

DR. PERRY: Thou hast commanded us, O God, to be blameless and harmless, the sons of God without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom we are to shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life.

We are more conscious at this hour than ever before in the history of our lives that of ourselves we are insufficient, and we are more conscious than ever before that our sufficiency is in Christ Jesus. We thank Thee for a blessed assurance that in the innermost recesses of our souls that we are in touch with the great Leader of the army of God. We thank Thee for the great prayer when we pray that we might all be one. We regret today the division in the great Church of Jesus Christ. We believe that these are the hindrances that are keeping us from glorious victories. That while we daily have victories, when our great Leader shall bring us closer together then shall we be fully under the leadership of Jesus Christ, and He

(When Dr. F. T. Tagg's name was called he spoke as follows:)

DR. TAGG: Mr. President, I am very sorry to say that since I became a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, this is the first time in my life that I have been forced to be out of sympathy with myself. I have more anxiety at this moment than I have ever had in my history. I think you all know what the action of the Maryland Conference in regard to this special session of the Conference has been.

DR. LUCAS: Aren't we in the roll-call at the present time?

A MEMBER: I am in hearty sympathy with Dr. Tagg and I believe that he ought to have the authority of this Conference to make his statement.

THE PRESIDENT: Is it your pleasure to hear Dr. Tagg?

(By consent Dr. Tagg was allowed to proceed.)

DR. TAGG: You all understand what the action of the Maryland Conference was. That action was taken with the explicit view to the meeting of this body, and while I am not in any sense in sympathy with that action, I am bound by it, and though, while I am here physically, I feel constructively I must be marked absent.

THE PRESIDENT: At this point, in the spirit in which I am sure all will feel I have tried to do all my duty, in the very serious and delicate responsibility placed upon me, I desire to announce three opinions of the President, because I have put them together as linked with each other, and as they are endorsed by the Executive Committee in unanimous vote, at a very recent session, I will ask the Secretary to read the three questions with the three answers, and I will ask the Secretary of the Executive Committee to report their findings on these answers.

DR. LUCAS: Had we not better continue with the roll-call until that is completed?

THE PRESIDENT: I think perhaps these might solve the problem.

A MEMBER: It can be solved immediately after the roll-call. There is no General Conference until the roll-call is made. No report can be made until the roll-call is completed.

A MEMBER: I responded to my name and I wish to make an explanation. I presume if that rule hold good we will all be making speeches.

THE PRESIDENT: The report I wish to make is simply for information. It seemed to me it would enlighten some who might respond and would help them immediately out of trouble. But we will proceed if that is the wish of the Conference.

The Secretary then proceeded to call the roll.

(When the name of F. C. Klein, of Maryland, was called he spoke as follows:)

"This is to me, like to Dr. Tagg, the most impressive moment of my life. I am a General Agent of the Methodist Protestant Church, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions, and a member of the Maryland Conference Dr. Tagg is. I have great respect for the opinion of my brethren and the warmest fraternal feeling for everyone of them. I am hoping that what is done here may bring the Maryland Conference into harmony with the rest of the Church. The Secretary of the Executive Committee has just informed me that that committee has unanimously sustained the decision of the President. According to the discipline, which is the Law of the Methodist Protestant Church, page 82, I accept that decision as the Law of the Methodist Protestant Church, and being anxious to be loyal to that Methodist Protestant Church, I answer to my name 'here.' (Applause) (Raises hand) No! no! not that, I am only, in the light of duty and the fear of God, doing what I believe is right whatever may betide."

pray Thy blessing on every church, and every conference, and every member, and our executive. O give him of Thy Spirit, interpret through the Spirit Thy will to him and may he lead us by Him, and may he keep in close touch with Him; and may we all, during our deliberations have but one object, the glory of Thy name in the extension of our church. Bless the denomination and bring us closer together and by and by grant we may be one not only in spirit but be one as Thou the Father and the Son art one.

Hear our prayer in Heaven, Thy dwelling place, and answer in Thine own way and time. We ask it for his sake and in his name. Amen.

DR. SINKINSON: May we sing No. 32? (Singing, "My Jesus I Love Thee.")

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will call the roll.

THE SECRETARY: Mr. President, I should like to ask one question before I begin calling the roll. By the provision of Section 4, page 78, of the Discipline, the Secretary is authorized to arrange the roll from the certified lists and from the credentials placed in his hands. In three or four instances, alternates are here instead of principals who were enrolled in the last meeting of this Conference, and in one or two instances, principals are here instead of alternates who were enrolled at Baltimore. My understanding of this provision is that the Secretary is authorized to enroll the alternates in the absence of principals, when proper certificates of election are presented, and in the attendance of the principals, they should be accepted as representatives; is the Secretary correct?

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary is correct. Of course the conference is made up with the roll of this special session and the alternates who take the place of principals will follow the usual order; that is to say, the Secretary, will follow the evidence of election as presented to him. On the matter of the principal taking the place of the alternate, the Chair has some doubts whether the principal by his absence has thereby resigned his place, I think we ought to give him the benefit of the doubt, when elected as principal, and if no question is raised, I think I shall answer affirmatively to the Secretary. If any question is raised, we will have a Committee on Credentials, but I think that would be the consensus of the House.

The Secretary then called the roll and the following delegates answered Present:

Alabama Conference—

T. C. Cassaday
J. P. Morgan
A. C. Rogers

Arkansas—

M. C. Jackson
J. M. Stephenson

Georgia—

Col. J. J. Barge
R. S. McGarrity

Indiana—

J. O. Ledbetter
S. S. Stanton
P. W. Dierberger
J. W. Albright
E. T. Howe
A. T. Merriman
W. C. Williams
A. L. Poundstone
F. A. Blaising

Iowa—

J. C. Nutt
A. H. Linder
J. E. Peterson
A. M. Kopf

Kansas—

T. J. Strickler
A. L. Cook

Louisiana—

E. M. Mouser
A. W. Stewart

Maryland—

The roll-call showed that twenty-one Conferences were represented, and 96 members out of a total voting membership of 172. The attendance at Baltimore in 1912 was 152.

DR. MORRISON (W. Va.): Mr. Chairman, I did not notice the name of Rev. G. H. Snyder, who is alternate for Dr. Helmick, deceased.

THE SECRETARY: The name was called and Brother Snyder is marked present.

DR. MORRISON: Are we ready for business?

THE PRESIDENT: The reading of the call of the Presidents will be next.

MR. MORRISON: I wish to make a motion. If a motion is not in order I will wait. Is a motion in order?

THE PRESIDENT: I think we will have the call. Just a moment, Brother Morrison.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads the call, as follows:)

"Whereas, The General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, held in Baltimore, in 1912, passed the following resolution:

'Resolved, That if, in their negotiations for union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, or the Methodist Episcopal Church, or the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the commission on church union shall find speedy action advisable, they are hereby authorized to overture the annual conferences in regard thereto, and upon a favorable action of two-thirds of the said annual conferences they shall call a special session of this General Conference in accordance with the constitutional provision, to act thereon;' and

Whereas, In the pursuance of their negotiations for union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the aforesaid commission deemed speedy action advisable and overtured the annual conferences in regard to a call for a special session of the General Conference in accordance with the constitutional provision cited in the above resolution, and found in Article 16, paragraphs 1 and 2, page 34, of the Book of Discipline; and,

Whereas, More than two-thirds of the annual conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church have united in the call of a special session of the General Conference;

Therefore, we, the undersigned presidents of annual conferences of the Methodist Protestant Church, hereby fix upon Columbus, O., as the place of meeting of the said special session of the General Conference and we designate 10 A. M. Wednesday, July 15, 1914, as the time for said meeting.

Signed:

C. D. SINKINSON,
President Eastern Conference
C. E. SHEPPARD,
President Muskingum Conference
J. H. LUCAS,
President Pittsburgh Conference
L. S. KIDD,
President North Illinois Conference
W. H. COLE,
President Michigan Conference
S. S. STANTON,
President Indiana Conference
T. J. STRICKLER,
President Kansas Conference
J. R. WAGGONER,
President Onondaga Conference
C. R. GREEN,
President North Missouri Conference
A. O. HORNEY,
President Ohio Conference

(When the Secretary called the name of T. R. Woodford, of Maryland, he spoke as follows:)

MR. WOODFORD: May I make a brief statement? (Consent)

Brother Klein has very satisfactorily expressed my own sentiments. I am simply standing on the authority given me by the decision of the Executive Committee, as I understand it, not in any sense meaning to ignore my local conference. But having been for nine years in the employment of the General Conference, I have, I believe, an appreciation, on that account, of the general work of the church which I might not have had otherwise, and therefore, having at heart not only the local interest of the beloved church of which I am a member, but the general interest as well, and the General Church, I am therefore here because I wish to stand by my denomination as a whole rather than as a part and because of that I answer "present" to the roll-call. (Applause)

The Secretary then continued the roll-call as follows:

Michigan—

F. A. Perry
M. R. Saigeon
Ely D. Miller
Simon Gould
E. L. Hursley

Muskingum—

Charles H. Beck
C. E. Sheppard
D. C. Coburn
G. H. Miller
C. S. Johnson
D. G. Jackson
S. T. Allen
D. C. Wees
A. Weedon
H. A. Sicker
J. F. Cappel
F. W. Stone
Newton Price
A. N. Fell
U. N. Keller
W. M. Crum

Eastern—

F. W. Varney
C. D. Sinkinson
Louis D. Stultz
Samuel McClain
G. F. Goff
F. H. Grohs

North Carolina—

R. T. Pickens

North Missouri—

C. R. Green
J. W. Fonda

North Illinois:

A. J. Christy
J. P. Collier
Jacob Roberts
Anna R. Wilson

Ohio—

M. R. Stover
Peter LeClair
A. O. Horney
A. L. Reynolds
C. E. Curtis
E. W. Gillespie
Jos. Corfman

Onondaga—

I. A. Brice
W. M. Pasco

Oklahoma—

D. S. Stephens

Pittsburgh—

J. C. Broomfield
J. Sala Leland
J. H. Lucas
C. L. Daugherty
F. W. Perkins
Lyman E. Davis
F. F. Brierly
Robt. Rawsthorne
Thos. C. Miller
Jas. Irwin

South Illinois—

B. S. Billings

Texas—

T. L. Garrison

West Virginia—

G. H. Snyder
A. F. Hess
Geo. R. Brown
J. N. Holt
J. Jay Phillips
U. W. Morrison
A. D. Williams
C. D. Barbe
J. C. Roane
J. H. Ruttencutter
Dr. J. B. Watson
John H. Long
Green Ruttencutter

THE SECRETARY: This resolution is signed by more than two members of this body, and is therefore before the house. Is there any discussion?

(Question called for.)

THE SECRETARY: As many of you as favor the adoption of this resolution will stand until counted by the Secretary.

(Standing vote. Counted.)

THE SECRETARY: As many as are opposed will stand until counted. (No one stood.) The vote is unanimous and will be so recorded.

COL. BARGE (Georgia): If that is going to be done I want to be recorded as voting against it.

This was a most unfortunate thing, it seems to me, to bring this to us now. The bitterness that has arisen out of this transaction has brought about conditions that we cannot understand, and while I expected to keep within due bounds, and if this resolution had come after we understood a little better, it might have been different, but feeling as I do I do not think that vote should be recorded that way, and I presume the other gentlemen who remained in their seats feel the same way.

A MEMBER: I rise to a point of order.

REV. R. S. McGARRITY (Representative from Georgia): I want to know the reason why? If there is no reason, my vote is "no."

A MEMBER: I move we hear the brother.

THE SECRETARY: Will you hear Brother McGarrity?

(Consent given.)

MR. McGARRITY: I want to say that this is new to me. A thing I have never seen or heard of. I think it very immature and unfortunate. It might have come later and been very proper. In view of the sentiment here, and I suppose most of you know something of it, and I grant that all are conscientious and honest, but for things to take this direction just at this moment seems to me to be very unfortunate, but it is taken and I would not undertake to retract it, but as it is to go on record, I want to say "no."

GEO. H. MILLER (Muskingum): I do not see how there could be any objection to this resolution. It has no reflection on the sentiments of anyone opposed to anything. It is simply a resolution expressing our confidence in the sincerity of Dr. Davis. I think anyone opposed to his plans would gladly vote for that.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I did not vote for the resolution because I had not been keeping up with things and didn't want to do a wrong thing and vote against the church. Personally I have confidence in Dr. Davis but I did not have time to think over this resolution.

THE SECRETARY: I think it is really unnecessary to prolong this discussion.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I would like to hear an announcement of the vote.

REV. C. S. JOHNSON (Muskingum): I was just going to suggest that the resolution be read again. I think if the brethren note it carefully they can find no objection to it. I think it might be inferred that this is an official endorsement of all the official acts, but the resolution does not carry that with it. I suggest reading it again.

THE PRESIDENT: I appreciate what Dr. Johnson has said but I don't think we need to do that.

THE SECRETARY: What is the pleasure of the Conference? Will you have the resolution read again?

(Calls for declaration of the vote.)

The Secretary announced that the vote stood 85 in favor of the resolution and 2 against.

REV. U. W. MORRISON (member from West Virginia): I wish

S. E. KENDALL,
President Tennessee Conference
W. L. FAGG,
President Northwest Texas Conference
J. E. BUTLER,
President Texas Conference
W. W. LANTRIP,
President Louisiana Conference
J. E. SOMERSETT,
President South Carolina Conference
T. B. LANE,
President Colorado-Texas Conference
C. B. McDANIELS,
President Georgia Conference
E. E. WESLEY,
President South Illinois Conference
ALBERT H. LINDER,
President Iowa Conference
A. H. MILLER,
President Kentucky Conference
W. H. HART,
President West Virginia Conference
W. J. JOHNSON,
President Missouri Conference
J. WESLEY BURGDORF,
President Virginia Conference
W. A. HOUSE,
President Arkansas Conference

THE PRESIDENT: The reading of the call by the Presidents of the Annual Conferences and the fixing of the date and the place, calls the General Conference in Special Session and proclaims the business for which we gather.

The following annual conferences voted to unite in calling the General Conference in special session: The Muskingum, the Iowa, the Indiana, the West Virginia, the Ohio, the Michigan, the Kansas, the Pittsburgh, the Onondaga, the Kentucky, the North Carolina, the Eastern, the North Illinois, the South Illinois, the Missouri, the North Missouri, the Tennessee, the Texas, the Colorado-Texas, the Arkansas, the Alabama, the Virginia, the South Carolina, the Oklahoma, and the Northwest Texas.

REV. GEO. H. MILLER (Muskingum): I have a resolution to offer. (Reads the following resolution:)

"In view of the great responsibility resting upon Dr. Lyman E. Davis, the esteemed President of our General Conference, we believe it fitting for this General Conference now assembled in Special Session to express its confidence in the integrity of Dr. Davis, and its appreciation of the ability and dignity with which he has borne the great responsibilities resting on him; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this General Conference, now in session, express by a standing vote its entire confidence in the unselfish devotion of Dr. Davis, in the high motive that has prompted all his actions in behalf of our church and in the dignity and true worth of his Christian life."

Signed:

T. L. GARRISON,	A. O. HORNEY,
C. E. SHEPPARD,	D. G. JACKSON,
C. D. SINKINSON,	GEO. H. MILLER,
T. J. STRICKLER,	M. S. SAIGEON,
L. S. KIDD,	J. H. LUCAS,
A. H. LINDER,	S. S. STANTON,
D. C. COBURN,	

to give the action of the Executive Committee. On the question he has just read, the Executive Committee sustains the decision of the President by unanimous vote.

MEMBER FROM MUSKINGUM: Would it not be well to call attention to the page in the report where this is found, so we may follow it?

THE SECRETARY: Page 10.

THE PRESIDENT: The five reasons given by the President are in the report.

THE SECRETARY: Question 2. Does the fact that the Baltimore General Conference, adjourned sine die, in any manner affect the organic continuity of the General Conference?

Answer: The adjournment of the Baltimore Conference, sine die, in no manner affects the organic continuity of the General Conference. Authorities of Church and State alike, as well as the highest American experts in parliamentary law, are fully agreed that when an assembly has made provision for another meeting, adjournment sine die cannot possibly dissolve that assembly. And, in this case, we have both the constitutional provision, authorizing two-thirds of the whole number of the annual conference to hold a special session, and a legislative provision, also, in the special resolution passed at Baltimore in 1912.

MR. PICKENS: The Committee also sustained the President in that decision, by unanimous vote.

THE SECRETARY: Question 3. Has any annual conference the legal right to forbid its general conference representatives to attend the special session?

Answer: No annual conference has the legal right to pass action forbidding its general representatives to attend the special session. The annual conference may properly give specific instructions to its representatives as to any question in the scope of their general conference duties, but when the annual conference has chosen its representatives in the general conference, through the prescribed agency of the electoral college, those representatives become at once broadly denominational in their character, and each member becomes a responsible unit of the general conference and the other claims and duties of representative must follow the lines of the larger jurisdiction. The annual conference, if permitted to exercise such power, would supplant the general conference in one of its most elementary prerogatives: the Discipline makes the general conference the judge of the qualifications of its own membership. If the annual conference is competent to interpret law for the general conference or to question its jurisdiction, then the quarterly conference is competent to interpret law for the annual conference and to question its jurisdiction. The parallel holds good.

MR. PICKENS: The Executive Committee, making a slight change in phraseology, sustained that question also.

THE PRESIDENT: The change indicated by the Secretary of the Executive Committee was read by the Secretary. It was sustained just as read by the Secretary.

DR. LUCAS: Is this the report of the Executive Committee?

THE PRESIDENT: It is the report of the Committee on these three questions.

DR. LUCAS: I move the report be adopted.

Motion seconded and on being put by the President the same carried.

COL. BARGE: I want to offer a resolution at this time.

THE PRESIDENT: The matter of our assembling is not before us until the Basis of Union is read and temporary disposition made of it.

COL. BARGE: Mr. President, before that is taken up and discussed and gone into I desire to offer a resolution.

to make a statement on behalf of West Virginia, and then make a motion.

Unfortunately we did not elect enough alternates. Three of our principals are not present. One died, the other two are not here and we have not enough alternates to fill the vacancies thus created. I know, very well, of course, that this General Conference cannot seat anyone in this body unless he has been elected duly, or as an alternate. However, we have with us Rev. Mr. Hart, President of the West Virginia District, and I would like to make a motion that he be made an honorary member of this Conference. I so move.

THE PRESIDENT: It has been moved and seconded that W. H. Hart be made an honorary member of this body.

R. T. PICKENS (member from N. Carolina): I don't know whether we have any authority to do that or not. I ask for the privilege of the floor for Brother Hart. I think we could probably grant the privilege of the floor.

A MEMBER: We have over and over given honorary memberships, giving what we call an honorary seat. It means the same thing.

MEMBER FROM NORTH CAROLINA: Of course it may be the same thing.

THE PRESIDENT: It is an honorary seat with the privilege of the floor.

On the motion being put by the President it was unanimously carried.

MR. MILLER (Muskingum): I move that the first eight rows of pews constitute the bar of the house.

Motion seconded, and on being put by the president was unanimously carried.

THE PRESIDENT: The members will come within the bar.

(Delegates here take their places within the bar.)

THE PRESIDENT: Will you fix the hour for adjournment now?

REV. MR. GOULD (Pastor of First Church): Dinner will be served at 12:30. That is the most convenient hour for the ladies to serve. The dinner will be served for everyone.

THE PRESIDENT: Will you make a motion to fix the time for adjournment at the noon hour?

J. P. COLLIER (North Illinois): I move that the President of the North Illinois Conference (Rev. L. S. Kidd) be given an honorary seat in this Conference.

Motion seconded and on being put by the President was carried.

THE PRESIDENT: Do you wish to fix the hour for closing?

DR. LELAND (Pittsburgh): I move the noon hour be 12:15 and the afternoon adjournment be at the pleasure of the Conference.

Motion seconded.

A MEMBER: I move that 1:30 be included as the time for reconvening and 9 o'clock in the morning.

DR. LELAND: I will include that in the motion; 1:30 in the afternoon and 9 in the morning.

THE PRESIDENT: I will call upon the Secretary to read the Basis of Union and the opinions of the President as endorsed by the Executive Committee.

THE SECRETARY: The following questions were addressed to the President of the General Conference:

Q. 1. Does the special session legally call together the regular members of the General Conference as organized in 1912, or, is a new election required?

Answer: On all grounds, constitutional and legislative, the organic composition of the General Conference remains the same as in the regular session of 1912. The members, as then recorded, are the members of the special session, without re-election; and the election of the new members would be illegal.

MR. PICKENS: The Secretary will please allow me, as he reads,

To the Representatives of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church:

First of all, whether speaking to you with tongue or pen, your commissioners would pay loving tribute to the memory of our fallen comrades in the work committed to our care.

All too soon after the completion of the Basis of Union at Columbus, Rev. Dr. M. L. Jennings and Rev. Dr. D. G. Helmick were called from labor to reward; and when we remember that both of them had been far from well during the last few months of their career, we must sorrowfully believe that, because of the strenuousness of this work, superadded to their other burdens, their lives were in no small degree a sacrifice to the task laid upon them by their beloved church. Faithful and zealous to the end, and giving their splendid talents, without stint, to the cause committed to their care, they have made the Methodist Protestant Church a grateful debtor to their achievements, and their names will stand forever in the memorial halls of our history.

The manifold deliverances of Doctor Jennings, on the subject of union, are familiar to you all, and will be found in the files of the Methodist Recorder; the constant zeal and enthusiasm of Doctor Helmick were not only manifested in the several meetings of the joint commission, but are contained, also, in letters to the President of the General Conference, the last of which was received only a few days before his death. "They rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

The report of your commissioners is contained essentially in the Basis of Union which you are asked to consider; and even the Basis of Union itself comes before this assembly, not on the initiative of the commissioners, primarily, but on the initiative of the General Conference, which authorized and directed the commissioners to re-open negotiations, and it comes to you on the constituent authority of the annual conferences, which have adopted it as their own.

It seems proper, however, that we should report something of the story of our negotiations, and of the reasons which prompted the various steps already taken. First of all, we would cite

THE AUTHORITY UPON WHICH WE PROCEEDED TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS FOR THIS PROPOSED UNION.

The negotiations for tri-church union between the Methodist Protestants, the United Brethren and the Congregationalists began more than ten years ago; and that movement, in so far as it led to mutual acquaintance and sympathy between our own church and the United Brethren, essentially links itself with the present negotiations. But the present movement began in the last session of our General Conference at Baltimore, in 1912, when the following resolution was offered by Rev. Dr. F. T. Tagg and unanimously adopted:

"We believe that a union of the Methodist Protestant Church

THE PRESIDENT: The representative from Georgia shall have that privilege.

The Secretary will read.

THE SECRETARY: Those of you who have this pamphlet will find the "Basis of Union" on page 15, if you wish to follow the reading. Half way down the page.

(The Secretary then reads the following:) (Beginning at Basis of Union. For information the entire Report of The Commission with its supplementary and explanatory notes is included here, excepting "The Call of the Presidents," which appears in its proper place in the Journal.—Secretary.)

representative. He wrote, first of all, to every annual conference president, and received from all save one the assurance of personal sympathy for this movement, and from nine-tenths of them the assurance of the unchanged desire of their conference for this proposed union. And in many of these letters, on their own prompting, the presidents insisted upon all speed consistent with safety, making the plea that the people were weary of tedious negotiations, and that they wished to see through to the end of matters. Supplementing these letters from the presidents, the annual conferences had taken voluntary action on the subject of union; and besides their favorable and enthusiastic deliverance for the union in itself, they added in many instances a passionate outcry against unnecessary delay. That was the well known sentiment of our denomination; everybody knew it then, because they heard the voice of it; everybody knows it now as a matter of unchallenged history. This sentiment was equally strong, so far as your chairman could learn, in our sister denomination. He received at least four letters from separate commissioners of the United Brethren Church to this effect. One said this: "While we need to be deliberate and careful, no greater delay than is absolutely necessary should be allowed in a matter of such serious importance to the two denominations interested and to the kingdom of God." Another expressed the sentiment in this form: "Our brethren seem to desire to proceed without delay; and that is satisfactory to me." In the joint commission, from both denominations with equal voice, came the lamentation that delay, with tedious negotiations, would be injurious to the work of the two denominations separately, and a waste of the forces which we desired to unite and conserve for the progress of the kingdom of God. We have tried to walk honestly in the straight path of duty marked out for us by the General Conference itself, and blazed anew for us by the endorsement of the annual conferences; and to this note of obedience we have kept unfaltering step, neither harkening to those who would have us quicken our pace beyond the ranks of the Church nor to those who would slow the movement down to a funeral march! And the special session now convening is not a hasty movement. It comes at the latest possible date within the time expected by the conferences when making the call; and an early session was absolutely necessary, not alone for the purpose of bringing our denomination rank to rank with the United Brethren in the voting, but also for the purpose of securing what we have already gained, and to hold the highways of our Zion for the union which her people desire, rather than permitting that union to be displaced by a counter movement to which they are unalterably opposed.

THE BASIS OF UNION.

The Basis of Union, which is a constitutional agreement, covering and safeguarding the fundamental principles of the two denominations, was adopted unanimously by the joint commissioners at the last Columbus meeting, and it has been endorsed by more than the required two-thirds of our annual conferences, and by more than the required three-fourths of the United Brethren annual conferences. It has also been adopted by the General Conference of the United Brethren Church, and now awaits the answering adoption of the assembled General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church.

This Basis of Union, confining itself to essential principles, presents those principles all the more clearly because it has not been elaborated into a finished discipline. In the brief but comprehensive syllabus, each principle stands out clear-cut as the letters of an alphabet; and every anxious champion can instantly see that his well-beloved principle is recognized.

And, in the matter of mutual concession, the two churches have

and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ is both practical and desirable, and we therefore authorize our commission on church union to enter into negotiations with the commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, just as soon as that commission is fully authorized to enter upon such negotiations."

The following supplementary resolution, offered by Rev. Dr. George H. Miller and Rev. Dr. Crates S. Johnson, was also adopted unanimously:

"Resolved, That if in their negotiations for union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Methodist Episcopal Church, or the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, our commission on church union should find speedy action advisable, they are hereby authorized to overture the annual conferences in regard thereto, and, upon favorable action of two-thirds of the annual conferences, they shall call a special session of this General Conference, in accordance with constitutional provisions, to act thereon."

In simple obedience to the instructions given us in these resolutions, we entered into joint session with the representatives of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and the Basis of Union is the result of our negotiations. In the progress of the movement there has been—

NEITHER HASTE NOR DELAY.

Your commissioners have neither exercised the slightest suggestion of haste nor indulged the call to unnecessary delay. The fact is that more actual time and more general discussion has been given to this proposed union than to any consummated union in the history of modern Christianity. It has been two full years since these particular negotiations began; and let it be remembered that these negotiations were grafted upon the negotiations of many previous years. Furthermore, after our first meeting at Columbus, the name having been decided upon, the work of writing the syllabus was then divided into four units, with special sub-committees for each of them, whereupon an adjournment was taken until March 19, thus giving for the development and elaboration of these several units, not one week, but four months. Whether the commissioners were satisfied with the time allotted to this task may be safely judged, I am sure, by their signatures to the various reports brought in at the March meeting. For this Basis of Union, let it be noticed, bears the signature of every member of our own commission present at the first and second meetings. The report on vested interests was signed by J. E. Peterson and J. F. Howe; the educational unit was signed by Dr. T. H. Lewis and J. F. Howe; the report on benevolent interests was signed by Dr. C. D. Sinkinson and Colonel J. J. Barge; the report on doctrine and discipline was signed by Dr. M. L. Jennings and Dr. D. G. Helmick. All these are signatories to this Basis of Union, and not a single word of complaint was heard from any of us to the effect that this long interval of more than one hundred days was too short a time for the completion of the work. As to the declaration of faith, in so far as that instrument reproduces the Dayton creed, it has borne the critical study and won the reverent praise of many years. In so far as it represents the sacrificial toil of Martin Luther Jennings, it stands as a martyr's monument; and the sturdy and worshipful doctrines comprehended therein are those of real Protestantism, and something vastly more and vastly better than any mere negation.

In pursuing these negotiations without unnecessary delay, in exercising all speed consistent with safety, we obeyed the answering demands of public sentiment in both denominations. The chairman of your commission, before calling the first meeting, assured himself on this point to a degree which will surely satisfy every rep-

and direction of the General Conference, which delegated its prerogative to the commissioners in this matter, the Baltimore resolution saying: "And they shall overture the annual conferences in regard thereto."

But there is another process absolutely necessary to organic church union; and this process is grounded in the following considerations:

No church in Christendom has ever made constitutional provision for union with any other church. All the law we have is merely as to amendments to the constitution.

By what law or right, then, may negotiating churches finally become one? Simply by the inalienable right which belongs inherently to every Christian denomination as an independent sovereignty.

How can any given denomination express this sovereign right? Through the highest court of the denomination, which is, in our case, the General Conference.

Why is the highest court of the church, that is to say, the General Conference, the only and final agency through which this sovereign right can be exercised and consummated? Because the Supreme Court of the United States has proclaimed, by a most sweeping decision, that only the deliverance of the highest court of a denomination will be recognized in all matters as the determining and final word; and the Supreme Court further declares that they will not inquire into the merits of the decree of the highest court "as between the parties before us."

Why should the General Conference be clothed with conventional powers? Because in the act of negotiating the union, in every act beyond the simple constitutional provision as to amendments, the General Conference is exercising conventional powers, whether they are specifically invested with them or not; and all their work toward union, while not unconstitutional, is extra-constitutional, being the expression of the sovereign right of the Methodist Protestant Church. The resolutions simply invest the General Conference with whatsoever rights it is bound of necessity to exercise.

THE RULE OF THE PEOPLE.

This whole movement toward church union, in our denomination and elsewhere, is a movement of the people, and every step taken by the authorities of the Methodist Protestant Church must justify itself in the sentiment and judgment of the individual membership.

At the time of the French Revolution one of the captains of the passing hour was in a committee room, discussing the public welfare with passionate fervor. Suddenly there was a great commotion in the street, as the multitude went surging by. And the captain exclaimed: "There go the people; I must follow them, for I am their leader!"

Something of irony in that expression as we hear it across the generations from the lips of that revolutionary leader of a day. But it is a serious truth in the Methodist Protestant Church that all leaders must be followers; and that if the Methodist Protestant Church is really prompted to form an organic union, through mutual concessions, with any other Christian denomination whatsoever, then every leader, whether a layman or minister, must clear the way for the people's will; and must firmly resolve that no man's veto, and no man's counter-movement, shall be permitted to keep asunder those whom God would join together.

But while popular government is supreme both in the Methodist Protestant Church, and in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, let us remember that ours is a republic while theirs is a de-

in this instrument an inter-denominational equation so complete as to satisfy the most critical judgment, if that judgment springs from a heart desirous of seeing this union consummated. There is an axiom in mathematics to the effect that "things which are equal to the same thing are equal to each other"; and both the Methodist Protestant Constitution and that of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ are responsive to the Basis of Union simply because they so perfectly answer to each other.

In the first place, the Basis of Union reaffirms and safeguards those great principles which are identical in the two denominations; those principles which are cherished equally by every member of the Methodist Protestant Church and every member of the United Brethren Church; those principles which, flowing with equal flood in the hearts of these two peoples, first suggested, as by the mutual impulse of liberty, the possibility of this proposed union. What are these principles? The mutual rights of ministers and laymen! The right of appeal, to be maintained inviolate forever! The right of private judgment in the field of interpretation! The recognition of but one order in the ministry, all elders of the Church of God being equal! These are every one recognized and safeguarded in this Basis of Union.

And when we come to point of mutual concession, the equation is sustained from first to last. In this syllabus as presented for your adoption, there are four distinct departures from the United Brethren Discipline in concession to us; namely, (1) the substitution of the new declaration of faith for their former confession of faith; (2) the admission of the term superintendent as an alternative name for the presiding officers of the church; (3) the requirement of two years in the itineracy before ordination; and (4) the surrender of one part of their name to make way for the union. And there are four departures from our discipline as a concession to the United Brethren; namely, (1) the substitution of the new declaration of faith for our former articles of religion; (2) the acceptance of the general superintendency; (3) the shortening by one year of the time of service required in the itineracy before ordination; and (4) the surrender of one part of our name, to make way for the union.

If the names of both denominations should be finally retained as a sub-title to the name "United Protestant," thus restoring the full name as first agreed upon, then no sacrifice of any part of either name would be necessary. As to the Declaration of Faith, neither denomination sacrifices anything to this instrument; for there is not a single doctrine dear to Methodist Protestants, not a single doctrine dear to United Brethren, which does not breathe and live, with all the fullness of a pentecost, in this worshipful confession of faith.

CONVENTIONAL POWERS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

To accomplish church union between any two denominations, a two-fold process is absolutely necessary. In the first place, of course, the work must begin and proceed along the lines clearly defined by the constitution. This fundamental requirement has been carefully observed at every step. We called the General Conference in special session as directed by the General Conference; but we did this through a constitutional method so plain that the annual conferences could have done it as effectually without the intervention of a commission. We overtured the annual conferences as to the Basis of Union; but we did this under the specific authority

composition of the General Conference remains the same as in the regular session of 1912. The members, as then recorded, are the members of the special session, without re-election; and the election of new members would be illegal.

The reasons for concluding that the special session must be composed of the regular members of the General Conference are, in part, as follows:

a. Our Methodist Protestant Church is an ecclesiastical republic, modeled after the United States government by the declared intent of its founders; and our General Conference is our national Congress, its members being elected in terms of four years.

b. The organization of our General Conference throughout, with all its boards, commissions and officers, is in harmony with this interpretation.

c. The Constitution, Article XVI, section 1, clearly names extraordinary meetings of the General Conference "special sessions," thus simply and plainly distinguishing them from the regular quadrennial session.

d. Our Constitution, in every case of important elections, makes provision not only for the election itself, but for the manner of that election. The electoral college is prescribed for the election of representatives in the General Conference; and when the convention now extinct was provided for, the law clearly stated that election thereto should proceed in the same manner as for the General Conference. But in providing for the special session, no provision whatever is made for an election or the manner thereof, clearly indicating that the members of the regular General Conference were to serve in the special session.

e. This special session is clearly made to signify a meeting of the General Conference by a resolution of the General Conference itself. (See minutes of the session of 1912.)

2. The adjournment of the Baltimore Conference, sine die, in no manner affects the organic continuity of the General Conference. Authorities of Church and State alike, as well as the highest American experts in parliamentary law, are fully agreed that when an assembly has made provision for another meeting, adjournment sine die cannot possibly dissolve that assembly. And, in this case, we have both the constitutional provision, authorizing two-thirds of the whole number of the annual conferences to hold a special session, and a legislative provision, also, in the special resolution passed at Baltimore in 1912.

FROM A GREAT PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY.

The president of the General Conference sent his two decisions covering the identity of the General Conference to General Robert, author of "Robert's Rules of Order," and, in reply, received the following:

"I think you are right in your ruling that the adjournment sine die of the regular session of your conference simply ended that regular session. I enclose a paragraph from the manuscript of the 'Rules of Order Revised,' which I think, covers your case:

"An adjournment, sine die, that is, without day, closes the session, and if there is no provision for convening the assembly again, of course the adjournment dissolves the assembly. But, if any provision has been made whereby another meeting may be held, its effect is simply to close the session. In an assembly, as a convention, which meets regularly only once during its life, but whose by-laws provide for special meetings, an adjournment sine die means only the ending of the regular session of the convention, which, however, may be reconvened as provided in the by-laws. If called to meet again the assembly meets as a body already organized.

"Henry M. Robert."

mocracy. The Methodist Protestant Church, being a representative government, provides for amendments to its constitution in the following language:

"Alterations of this constitution may be effected by means of overtures by the General Conference, confirmed by two-thirds of the annual conferences."

The United Brethren Church, being a democracy, provides for constitutional changes in this language:

"Amendments to this constitution may be proposed by any General Conference—two-thirds of the members elected thereto concurring; which amendments shall be submitted to a vote of the membership throughout the church, under regulations authorized by said conference. A majority of all the votes cast upon any submitted amendment shall be necessary to its final ratification."

The Methodist Protestant commissioners have followed with exact steps the path blazed for them by the law of the Methodist Protestant Church, beginning and ending in the conferences, simply because the law begins and ends there. The United Brethren General Conference, on the other hand, ordered a direct vote of the people because they were required so to do by their constitutional law.

If the president of the General Conference, or the commissioners as a body, had proclaimed a popular ballot on the question, thus expressing or implying this popular vote as a requirement or a necessity, they would thus have clearly departed from the law of our representative government, and in so far, as we were well advised, would have in some degree jeopardized the union. That is so, primarily, because the constitution makes direct provision in this respect, recognizing only the conferences, and yet recognizing the people, because their chosen representatives form an equal part of every conference. There is another consideration which must be kept in mind, if we would take every step legally and cautiously. Let it be remembered that our church is pre-eminently a mutual rights church. But if we should call for a separate, independent vote, either of the laity or of the ministry, thus giving either branch of our well-balanced government a practical veto power, that would destroy the essential principle of mutual rights, and, in a separate vote of the laity, this would necessarily be true, because the ministers, not being members of local churches, would be totally disfranchised; for membership follows amenability; and as our ministers are amenable only to the annual conference, they are therefore members of the annual conference only.

But this whole matter is now before the General Conference, and your verdict will remain the decisive and final interpretation of the law. In many conferences the people voted on the question of union last year, instructing their delegates in harmony with our representative form of government; and in all conferences where the congregational vote was taken it was a practically unanimous declaration for the union.

CERTAIN QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

In the progress of the negotiations, certain questions were developed, and two of the more important ones are reproduced here, together with our answering opinion and the authorities supporting that opinion:

1. Does the special session legally call together the regular members of the General Conference as organized in 1912, or, is a new election required?

2. Does the fact that the Baltimore General Conference, adjourned sine die, in any manner affect the organic continuity of the General Conference?

To these questions the following answers were made:

1. On all grounds, constitutional and legislative, the organic

guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth, do make this declaration of our faith, and in so doing we do heartily renew the consecration of our lives to Almighty God and to the service of mankind.

1. We believe in the one living and true God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost; that these three are one; that the Father and Lord of all, maker of heaven and earth, did send His Son Jesus Christ to redeem us from sin and death by the perfect obedience of His holy will in life, by the sacrifice of Himself on the cross, and by His glorious resurrection from the dead; that the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God and of Christ, moves in the hearts of men, calling them through the gospel to repentance and faith, awakening in them spiritual sorrow for past sin and confidence in the mercy of God, together with new desires and a new power to obey His will.

2. We believe that, though man by disobedience became alienated from God, yet God would have all men return unto Him; that to this end he has made himself known, not only through the works of nature and the consciences of men, but, above all, through Jesus Christ, His Son; further, that God is ever calling to men through His love and that they who hear this call of divine love, and do heartily put their trust in the Saviour whom His love has provided, are assured by His word of His most Fatherly forgiveness, of His free and perfect favor, the presence of His spirit in their hearts, and of a blessed immortality.

3. We believe that all who are through faith the children of God constitute the Church of Christ; that they are the spiritual body of Christ of which He is the Head; that it is their duty to associate themselves together in churches, not only for the maintenance of worship and the promotion of spiritual growth and fellowship, but also for proclaiming His gospel to all mankind, and for manifesting in their character the fruit of His Spirit; that for the comfort of our faith He has given to His Church the sacred ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

4. We believe that the Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; that they are the only rule of faith and practice, that is, they constitute the authoritative standard by which all religious teaching and human conduct are to be regulated and judged.

5. We believe that according to Christ's law men of the Christian faith exist for the service of man, not only in the holding forth the word of life, but in the support of works and institutions of sympathy and charity in the maintenance of human freedom, and the deliverance of those that are oppressed, in the enforcement of civic justice, and the rebuke of all unrighteousness.

6. We believe that Jesus Christ having risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, carries forward His work of saving men by sending the Holy Spirit to convict them of sin and to lead them to repentance and faith; that those who, through renewing grace turn to righteousness and trust in Jesus Christ, continue to grow in sanctified character through fellowship with Christ, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and obedience to the truth; that a holy life is the fruit and evidence of saving faith.

We believe in the observance of the Christian Sabbath, as a day of holy rest and worship; that it is divinely appointed, and its observance is essential to the welfare of the civil community, and to the permanence and growth of the Christian Church.

8. We believe in the ultimate prevalence of the kingdom of Christ over all the earth; in the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the dead, and a future just retribution for the deeds done in the body in this life.

Every point in the president's two rulings, the one declaring that the special session convenes the General Conference of 1912, and the other declaring that the adjournment sine die can not affect such an assembly, is thoroughly covered by this paragraph from the manuscript of his forthcoming book. It is manifest, also, that the reply could not have been accommodated in any manner to the form of the question; because this transcript is not an answer of the moment to a question of the moment, but rather the cumulative judgment of this great parliamentary authority. But it fits the case so aptly and thoroughly as to put it beyond further question.

WHAT A NOTED LEGISLATOR SAYS.

From Hon. George E. Alter, speaker of the House of Representatives of the state of Pennsylvania:

"An adjournment sine die does not dissolve the body, if there is a method by which a day may be fixed for a future meeting. When the legislature of Pennsylvania completes its regular biennial sessions, it adjourns sine die if, however, the governor afterwards calls a special session, under the power vested in him by the constitution, the two houses meet on the day fixed by him, whereupon the presiding officer, as well as all subordinate officers and employes, resume their duties; each member takes his former seat, and business proceeds at once without the necessity of organizing."

A DISTINGUISHED MODERATOR'S OPINION.

From Rev. Dr. James D. Moffat, president of Washington and Jefferson College, and former moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church:

"When provision is made for special meetings of an assembly, whether such provision is made in its constitution or by special enactment, an adjournment sine die can not possibly dissolve the assembly."

A PROMINENT LAWYER'S OPINION.

From Mr. Frank Ewing, a prominent lawyer of Pittsburgh, and one who, as a leading Methodist Protestant, has given special study to these questions:

"Concerning the two questions submitted by you to me, will say as follows:

"First. Whether the adjournment of the General Conference sine die affects in any manner the organic continuity of the present General Conference, it is my opinion that it does not. I do not think there can be any serious doubt upon this question; and that this would be the conclusion of practically all authorities.

"Second. Whether the session of the General Conference is governed in any manner by the laws and precedents of the General Convention, of the past history of the Church. It is my opinion that it is not. By reading the Discipline, it will be seen that a clear distinction is made between the General Convention as a body and the General Conference.

"Yours truly,
"Frank Ewing."

BASIS OF UNION.

Declaration of Faith—We, the representatives of the United Protestant Church, desiring to confess our inward and personal faith in Jesus Christ as our divine Saviour, and, also, to express our acceptance of the Holy Scriptures as the inspired source of all our faith and the supreme standard of Christian truth, and depending upon the

Report of Committee on Vested Interests.

Your Sub-committee on Vested Interests suggest the adoption of the following resolutions by each of the denominations:

1. **Concerning Organic Union:** Resolved, That we, the Methodist Protestant Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, being similar in polity and alike in the essence of our faith, and, believing that the true purpose of religion is to teach men to adore God and to save them from sin, and that the great objective of the Christian Church is to teach true religion and to persuade men everywhere to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, and that we can better conserve our Christian efforts by joining in wholesome co-operation and fraternal love in one organization than by continuing our separate organization, and an unwholesome, rivalry and competition, do hereby unite said denomination in one organic body.

2. **Concerning Property Titles:** We would encourage the proper transfer of titles to all property to the new organization as soon as may be done, although they need not be disturbed or divested, but may remain as they are. Where charters provide that trustees or directors shall be elected from a certain denomination or conference or in a particular manner, such amendment to the charter may be had as to permit the election of trustees from the united body, or in a manner to suit its convenience. In the case of organizations which can not well be continued as separate organizations—such as annual conferences—conveyances should be made to the successor of such organizations before the existing organization is discontinued.

3. **Concerning Future Acquired Titles:** These should be vested in the new organization, or in its subordinate body, for the benefit of which the property is acquired, in each instance, using the full official title of such new organization.

4. **Concerning Abandoned or Disused Property:** Funds realized from abandoned property should not be diverted from the general purpose to which same was originally devoted, and, in general, their use should be preserved, as far as may be, to the localities where the property is situated or the conference controlling same. All property abandoned at the time of this merger may be handled, controlled, and disposed of in the manner in which it would have been disposed of if this union had not taken place. When new classes are organized by members of both denominations uniting, which classes shall occupy property theretofore disused, a proper resolution of the conference controlling same should authorize such use and a conveyance be made to trustees elected by the newly organized class.

W. R. FUNK, Chairman,
R. H. BENNETT, Secretary,
SHERMAN W. LOTT,
LYMAN E. DAVIS,
J. F. HOWE,
J. E. PETERSON,
Committee.

Report of the Committee on Educational Institutions.

To the Joint Commission of the United Brethren and the Methodist Protestant Churches:

Your committee appointed to take into consideration the educational interests of our two churches with the view of a union, respectfully report that we have gone over as carefully as our limited time permitted the various educational institutions of our churches, seeking mainly to inform ourselves as to their condition and needs, to understand their environments and, in a very tentative way, to forecast the possible effect the union proposed would have upon these institutions.

Your committee would not be expected to offer at this time any

Constitution.

1. All ecclesiastical power herein granted to enact or repeal any rule of discipline is vested in a General Conference, composed of an equal number of ministers and laymen.

2. The General Conference shall meet every four years, and oftener if deemed necessary, and shall determine the qualifications of its representatives, the mode of their election, and the number to be chosen from each conference district.

3. The General Conference shall elect, every four years, from among the elders of the Church, such number of bishops or general superintendents as shall be deemed necessary for the proper administration of the work of the Church. They shall preside at the sessions of the General Conference. In case none are present, the General Conference shall elect a chairman pro tem.

The United Protestant Church recognizes but one order in the ministry, and, therefore, the term "bishop" signifies, in our economy, an office and not an order.

4. The General Conference shall divide the territory of the Church into conference districts, determining their number and boundaries. Said conferences, shall hold annual sessions and shall be composed of all elders, a lay representative from each pastoral charge, and licentiates who have traveled under the direction of the conference for two years, and may be admitted to membership.

5. The General Conference shall have full control of the Church's printing establishments, theological seminaries, missionary and church erection societies, educational and Sunday-school boards, and Christian Endeavor and Brotherhood organizations. It shall also have power to establish and control any other department or institution within the Church, which it may deem helpful in promoting its larger life and usefulness, and to enact such rules and regulations as shall be deemed necessary to enhance the growth and welfare of the annual conferences and local congregations.

6. The right of appeal shall be inviolate.

7. The right, title, interest and claim of all property, both real and personal, of whatever name or description hitherto acquired by purchase or otherwise, by any person or persons, for the use and benefit of either of the uniting churches, or that may be secured hereafter, are hereby fully recognized and held to vest in the said United Protestant Church, the same being the legal successor of the denominations composing it. The new organization shall be the legal successor to each of said denominations and is authorized to continue same in force, together with all boards, corporations, societies, associations, institutions, activities, and subordinate organizations and auxiliaries, so far and for such time as may be necessary to accomplish their purpose, to discharge their obligations, to execute their trusts, to preserve their property rights, bequests, legacies and other interests, and to conserve the effort of said denominations.

8. Amendments to the foregoing Constitution and Confession of Faith may be proposed by any General Conference, two-thirds of its members agreeing thereto, and said amendments shall be submitted to the several annual conferences of the Church for ratification, a majority vote of two-thirds of the conferences voting in favor thereof being necessary to adoption.

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. WEEKLEY, Chairman.

L. E. DAVIS,

G. M. MATHEWS,

D. G. HELMICK,

M. L. JENNINGS,

W. O. FRIES,

Committee.

gard to the most hearty, consecrated and efficient service in the world's redemption, and the hastening of the coming of the kingdom of Christ upon earth.

Respectfully submitted,

T. C. CARTER, Chairman,
A. P. FUNKHOUSER,
J. J. BARGE,
C. D. SINKINSON,
J. M. KNIGHT,
S. R. HARRIS,

Committee.

DR. LUCAS: Mr. President, do I understand now that this is the report of the Commission to this body?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, sir.

DR. LUCAS: I move, in view of the necessity for deliberate procedure, that this report be referred to a Committee which shall be appointed by the President of this Conference.

Motion seconded.

THE PRESIDENT: It has been moved and seconded that a committee be appointed by the President to take this Basis of Union into consideration. Are you ready for the question? All in favor say "aye".

The motion was carried.

THE PRESIDENT: What is your pleasure as to the number on the Committee?

A MEMBER: 15, including both ministers and laymen.

A MEMBER: I move there be one from each conference represented.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there a second to that?

COL. BARGE: I would amend that "in as far as they are present."

THE PRESIDENT: It has been moved and seconded that one representative from each conference here represented be on that committee. I am glad that came from one of the Georgia Conference representatives.

The motion being put by the President was carried.

THE PRESIDENT: Now, if you please, I want each delegation to decide on the man for me.

DR. LUCAS: A motion has been passed that the President of the Conference appoint this Committee.

THE PRESIDENT: I will say this much, however, that the Presidents of the Conference who are here are all appointed now, because the Presidents of the Conferences have been recently elected by the Conference, and that solves the problem for me that far. I can appoint the others in a few minutes.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I have no objection to the Presidents of the Conferences being on this committee, but it might be there would be very few lay representatives on it.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: It has also occurred to me that the Presidents of some of the Conferences are on this Commission. I think the President had better deliberate.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: It is also a fact that there are some Presidents who are not members of the Conference.

THE PRESIDENT: Of course the representative from Muskingum will understand that I did not intend to include them.

MR. PICKENS: I don't know whether I can offer this resolution or not, or whether it is proper to transact regular business at this session. (Reads resolution as to length of terms of representatives.)

COLONEL BARGE: I wish to call attention to the fact that we don't know such thing as a delegate to the General Conference; that our Discipline does not imply anything about electing delegates to the General Conference.

definite suggestions with respect to the merging of any two or more of these institutions, as to whether any now existing should be discontinued, suppressed, or any new one started, whether the work of any should be modified or the scope of any be enlarged, or a policy of concentration and intensive improvement be rigorously entered upon. These questions are of great moment and affect so vitally large property interests that it would be inexcusable to attempt to deal with them until the most patient and prolonged investigation of every item had been supplied us with the material for a deliberate judgment.

Another question of more general import and of no less gravity is the question of the relation of the church to these institutions, questions of ownership, control, supervision, patronage and support. How to reach a wise and at the same time an effective oversight, to set up educational standards, stimulate the deficient, prune the redundant, repress imprudent ventures, and encourage worthy ambitions, both financial and educational—this is a matter that we feel must be approached boldly as one demanding explicit and speedy solution; and yet one so delicate and sensitive to blundering legislation that only those who know nothing about it would fear nothing.

It seems to your committee, therefore, that these educational interests should be left as they are until the union is consummated, and that the united church should then promptly raise a commission to work out the problems after exhaustive investigation.

The two churches in their separate organizations seem to have the same convictions upon Christian education and the necessity, not to say the right, of denominational schools. They have both been trying to work out the problem of control. And if they should unite they should have in their united capacity no strange task in this educational work. Your committee, therefore, feels that this problem is one which the united church can best undertake, and that it would only cumber and perhaps retard the union to attempt to settle it in advance.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM M. BELL, Chairman
T. H. LEWIS, Secretary,
G. A. LAMBERT,
J. E. PETERSON,
FRANKLIN E. BROOKE,
J. F. HOWE,

Committee.

Report of Committee on Benevolent Boards.

We, your Committee on Benevolent Boards, having examined the subject committed to us, respectfully report that, in view of the fact that the two churches having the management and control of the several lines and departments of church work, namely, Education, Missions, Church Extensions, Sunday Schools, Christian Endeavor and Brotherhood, are organized and conducted so nearly alike, we feel assured that when our commissioners have agreed upon a common doctrine and polity, it will in no wise be difficult to blend these organized agencies of each denomination into efficient organizations to do the benevolent work of the united church.

We recommend, therefore:

1. That these boards shall continue their work as directed by each church until the General Conference of the united church shall create new boards or order otherwise; and that the several boards shall press the work committed to them concerning our common Master's kingdom, and whenever possible, each shall help the other into larger and more blessed achievements.

2. That when the union is consummated, in the personnel, organization, and management of the several boards, each present denomination be given equitable representation, always with absolute re-

THE PRESIDENT: You can present an opinion or objection or—what is it the lawyers call it?

COLONEL BARGE: I want to file a demurrer.

THE PRESIDENT: As to that question, it has been decided by the Conference.

COLONEL BARGE: That is the very point I made at the time. I will hand this to the Secretary and ask him to read it.

(Secretary reads resolution of Colonel Barge.)

REV. MR. VARNEY: I move, Mr. Chairman, that it be tabled.

Motion seconded and on being put by the President was carried.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM OHIO: Did I understand that in the appointment of this committee the delegations were to select the men?

THE PRESIDENT: I asked the delegations to do that. It will relieve me from the responsibility.

DR. LUCAS: I insist on the fulfillment of the order of this Conference that the President appoint that committee.

THE PRESIDENT: I will ask the delegations to help me a little.

A MEMBER: I move a recess for dinner.

DR. BROOMFIELD (Pittsburgh): We want to be very careful about the legality of the acts we are doing. We see some quibbling about legality. Do I understand in Colonel Barge's demurrer, he presents the idea of adjournment?

COLONEL BARGE: That is my idea.

DR. BROOMFIELD: You cannot table a motion to adjourn.

THE PRESIDENT: The body ignored the last part.

A MEMBER: I move we reconsider that motion.

THE PRESIDENT: The first part of that was all that could be tabled. There is a motion to reconsider.

On the motion being seconded and put by the President, was carried.

A MEMBER: I move the resolution be re-read.

(The Secretary re-reads the resolution.)

DR. LUCAS: That is not purely a motion to adjourn. There are other matters in that resolution and therefore the tabling of it is the proper thing. I sincerely hope we will table that resolution. I move to lay on the table. The motion was seconded.

DR. STEPHENS (Oklahoma): I don't want to consume time but I wish to give an opportunity to those who want to discuss the resolution to discuss it.

DR. REYNOLDS: I want to know whether these are statements of fact?

REV. MR. MILLER: I move the resolution be referred to a special committee.

COLONEL BARGE: As one of the signers of that I want to answer what Dr. Reynolds has asked, if this is a statement of fact. That is exactly what I would like to know. I was Secretary of the Commission from our church and have endeavored as best I could to get any information or any minutes of the conferences of the Commission that would show that the Commission acted at all upon the question. I have been utterly unable to do it. I can't find it. I presume that is the fact but wanted to know, and I would be glad to see the minutes, if it is in the minutes. If any brother here has the minutes of the Commission that shows that, I would like to see them.

THE PRESIDENT: The representative from Georgia was Secretary of the Commission and attended two of the meetings but he was not present at the last meeting when the Basis of Union was adopted, and therefore was not Secretary of that meeting. The Basis of Union was adopted in a way and to a degree that no Basis of Union in the history of negotiations has ever been, autographically signed; and secondly, it was adopted unanimously by the Commission meeting

DR. LUCAS: I want to inquire if that resolution is to be a construction of the law, or what is its nature?

THE PRESIDENT: I think the intention of the Representative from North Carolina is to introduce it for adoption.

DR. LUCAS: I was going to move that if it be a construction of the law, it be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MICHIGAN: I hardly think this is the time and place to introduce that resolution. I think at the regular General Conference would be the proper time and I think the introduction of that resolution questions the legality of this meeting.

THE PRESIDENT: The Representative from North Carolina simply seeks to make permanent the action you took this morning.

DR. REYNOLDS: Would this General Conference have authority to transact that sort of business?

THE PRESIDENT: Dr. Reynolds has raised the proper point. We can simply recognize this. Of course we could not pass anything only in relation to what we were called together for.

DR. PERRY: I think it very unfortunate to bring in a resolution which questions the legality of this meeting. This can be attended to at a regular Conference meeting. If this questions the legality of these proceedings, I am opposed to it.

DR. LUCAS: Will you allow me to call your attention to the fact that you did pass that resolution when you adopted the report of the Committee which confirmed the report of the President?

MR. PICKENS: I did not know whether it was going to be the ruling of the chair that no business shall be taken up except that referred to in the call, or not. Unless that is the exclusive business of this conference, you have a right to consider a proposition of this kind, that is my interpretation.

The resolution that we passed, answering the Doctor (Dr. Lucas), is an interpretation of the law generally governing this point. However, it simply covers existing conditions, but this is proposed to be an interpretation of the law that would govern any future question. In other words, suppose you want to have another extra session of this conference the same questions are going to arise. These questions passed by the Executive Committee are as to existing conditions and interpret the law as to whether this conference is in existence for four years, and therefore, whether it is a continuous body, and this body is a last resort. If we are simply an adjourned session, we have as much right, unless it is held that we can only transact specific business, as the original session. We are not limited in power because we are an extra session, it is a continuous session, unless the chair first rules that no other business shall be transacted.

THE PRESIDENT: In answer to that—we, of course, know the purpose of the Representative from North Carolina—but I will have to answer that the form of the resolution adopted limits our business entirely to that of the Basis of Union. We cannot do anything else. I simply supposed the resolution would be a recommendation.

MR. PICKENS: As that is the ruling, of course it is out of order.

THE PRESIDENT: The resolution could be withdrawn and the idea included therein turned over to the Executive Committee for consideration.

(The resolution offered by Mr. Pickens of North Carolina was withdrawn.)

COLONEL BARGE: May I now offer a resolution?

THE PRESIDENT: Wouldn't you rather talk at the same time I do?

COLONEL BARGE: It has no reference to that. It questions the legality of the call of this conference. I want to get it on record. I would like to offer a resolution and have the Secretary read it.

THE PRESIDENT: A resolution is a signed document, with the dignity of having been written, and a motion is an oral instrument.

A REPRESENTATIVE: A resolution is a motion in writing.

A. D. WILLIAMS: A resolution is a motion in writing. If you can't send to the table a motion to adjourn, can't you accept this and put in the record of your doings that which is on the table? What is the purpose of the table? Get it before the body, and then you can take it up at your pleasure and you have a right to put it into the body of your report.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the point is well taken that this motion is a composite one and the first part is so involved in the second part, it cannot be separated. Unless we wanted to be tremendously technical I think we are through.

DR. LUCAS: I am surprised. Possibly I do not understand, but there can be no motion put before the house without a second. There were no seconds to this motion. It came before the house as a resolution. Isn't that right? But when the motion was put it required a second, did it not?

THE PRESIDENT: The time is up. I ruled that it was not a part of the record.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I move we adjourn.

A REPRESENTATIVE: Perhaps we have made a mistake about the time. Someone has just suggested that we ought to have until 2 o'clock. It seems to me an hour and a quarter is really a short time. I would like to move that the time for re-convening be made 2 o'clock.

The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

COLONEL BARGE: May I make an inquiry? Are the proceedings of this Conference being reported?

A. Yes.

COLONEL BARGE: Will they be furnished to the different representatives?

THE PRESIDENT: This Conference will have to decide that. The pastor of this church has an announcement.

MR. GOULD: I want to say if any of the brethren have not been assigned lodging, if you will report to myself or Rev. E. D. Beck we will take care of you. Dinner will be served at 12:30.

THE PRESIDENT: I will ask Brother McGarrity, of Georgia, to pronounce the benediction.

REV. R. S. MCGARRITY: Holy Father, Giver of every good and perfect gift, knowing the secrets of every human heart, we pray Thy blessing shall rest upon this gathering and Thy Spirit strengthen us and Thy Grace sustain us in the things which we shall do that they shall be for Thy glory and advancement and uplift and betterment of the children of men. This we pray in His name. Amen.

The Conference then adjourned until 2 P. M., July 15, 1914.

July 15, 1914.

Afternoon Session, 2 P. M.

Dr. A. F. Hess, of West Virginia, led the devotional exercises.

DR. HESS: I am going to ask the pastor of the Lansing, Michigan, church to lead us in prayer.

REV. F. W. STEPHENSON: O Thou Who art our God; O Thou Who art our Father, in Thy name we come to Thee just now. We are glad we may come simply, and humbly to the Throne of Grace and know Thou dost hear our petitions. Dear Father, our hearts are troubled with anxiety. Our minds are not always clear because so many things crowd in upon them insistent for answer, and yet we know under the guidance of Thy Spirit we may eliminate

last held at Columbus, two-thirds of our own Commission being present. Now the overture is the instrument itself. The President of this general conference studied that matter as thoroughly as he has ever studied anything. The overture is the Basis of Union and the Basis of Union is the overture. This was the overture of the Commission, and no one on earth, lawyer or preacher or statesman, in the ultimate analysis will question it, and I wish to say here and now, as I may not care to mention the question again, no movement was ever buttressed to a greater degree than this. I am not saying that boastfully—it is bomb-proof and we are not afraid of it. I hope you will accept the statement of your Chairman who was there, and his interpretation of the matter and not dignify such a reflection as this by giving it to any committee. (Applause.)

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: That is not purely a motion to adjourn, and therefore the motion to table is not impossible. I insist on the vote.

The motion, on being put by the President, was carried.

THE SECRETARY: It was the statement of the mover of this resolution that it was his desire that this should be a matter of record. Is it the sense of this body that this resolution shall be embodied in our record?

(Answers, No, No.)

REV. MR. MILLER: I would like to rise to a question of information, because this may lead us into entanglements that will cause years and years of litigation and unless there was included in the motion to table the motion to exclude it from the record, I doubt whether it could be excluded unless voted on. I move it be excluded from the record.

The motion was seconded.

REV. MR. MORGAN (Alabama): I don't know. I am not in sympathy with all that is proposed in that resolution. But isn't it the privilege of the member to have that go into the record and that it show? Of course, if they vote no, that will show, but I think it should be allowed to be put into the record the things that the body did not approve.

DR. PERRY (Michigan): Where does this stand now.

THE PRESIDENT: It is moved to exclude from the minutes.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MICHIGAN: It seems that the Representative from Georgia in his presentation has indicated that he simply wants a courteous hearing and explanation and to know whether the statements he makes are true or not. It seems the President is very gracious and glad to give this explanation here and now perhaps he is willing to withdraw it. He has the question answered. I would be very glad if the Representative from Georgia would take care of this. I think he has the information now he desired.

THE PRESIDENT: It is tabled now.

D. S. STEPHENS (Oklahoma): Mr. President, I cannot vote for the striking out of this from the minutes until I know the reason why the motion should prevail. I have no sympathy whatever with any statement contained in the resolution, but I do feel if we are to show what appears to be a manifest discourtesy in excluding any reference to this resolution from the minutes, we ought to have a good reason why. I shall vote against dropping it out of the minutes unless a good reason be given.

MR. PICKENS: I don't see how it can be brought up again.

THE PRESIDENT: I have ruled that having been tabled it is not a part of the minutes.

A. D. WILLIAMS (West Virginia): I would like to know what is the difference between a resolution and a motion.

THE PRESIDENT: Were you going to tell us?

A. D. WILLIAMS: No, sir; I want to know.

us out into the clear light of Thy will, so that when we understand we may be ready to attempt to do it, looking to Thee for further guidance and help to crown our efforts with Thy "Well done, good and faithful servants, enter into the joy of thy Lord." We ask it for Jesus' sake. Amen.

DR. HESS: Let us sing No. 12. "God Will Take Care Of You." (Singing.) (The President here takes the chair.)

THE PRESIDENT: The President was asked to appoint a Committee, one from each Conference, to take into consideration the Basis of Union. In a few conferences only ministers are here, and in order to have the laymen properly represented on the Committee, they were selected from the other conferences. I will ask the Secretary to read the Committee.

THE SECRETARY: Committee to consider and report on Basis of Union, and the Report of the Commission on Church Union.

T. C. Casaday, J. M. Stephenson, R. S. McGarrity, A. L. Cook, T. R. Woodford, F. A. Perry, C. S. Johnson, F. W. Varney, R. T. Pickens, A. J. Christy, A. O. Horney, I. A. Brice, D. S. Stephens, J. C. Broomfield, B. S. Billings, T. L. Garrison, A. D. Williams, A. W. Stewart, A. L. Poundstone, A. H. Linder, C. R. Green.

REV. MR. MCGARRITY: Mr. President, will you please excuse Georgia from acting on that Committee? Will you do it?

COLONEL BARGE: Mr. President, I have a petition which it is my duty to present to this General Conference, and I would like at this time to present it. I think it would be the proper time.

THE PRESIDENT: Will the Conference hear?

COLONEL BARGE: I want the Secretary to read it. It is a petition from the Georgia Annual Conference.

THE PRESIDENT: Will the Conference grant this at this time? Of course it comes between parts of business, but I want us to be as generous as we can.

(Privilege granted by the Conference.)

The Secretary then read the following petition:

Whereas, The Georgia Annual Conference, at its last annual session, directed its representatives in the General Conference, if a Special General Conference should be called, to earnestly protest any hasty action which might be precipitated in such specially called General Conference in reference to Church Union; and,

Whereas, Said Georgia Annual Conference contemplated a regularly and legally called and assembled special General Conference; and,

Whereas, The representatives from the Georgia District to this General Conference have already protested the legality of the call of this General Conference and do now protest its legality and insist upon the same, and without waiving any of the rights of the membership of the Church and especially of the Georgia Annual Conference, do hereby submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the event that the General Conference be about to form a Union with the United Brethren in Christ Church, the delegates from the Georgia Annual Conference do petition our own General Conference to grant to the Georgia Annual Conference and any other conference of our Church voting against the proposed Union the right to peacefully determine their own Church relations and the further right to continue to hold their present property undisturbed, which was adopted by the Georgia Annual Conference and ask this General Conference to grant the prayers therein named.

(Signed) J. J. BARGE,
R. S. MCGARRITY."

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

DR. PERKINS (Pittsburgh): I would like to ask if Colonel J. J. Barge is President of the Georgia Conference and Rev. Mr. McGarrity the Secretary? If this paper comes officially?

fear. We pray in the deliberations of this great conference, Thy Spirit may guide us. May we not fear to trust Thee; may we not hesitate to take the step that is best, and may we do it fearing and trusting Thee.

We thank Thee for Dr. Davis, the Executive head of this conference. We thank Thee for his sweet spirit and kindly sympathetic attitude, and we pray that every member of our church and every member here may be filled with the spirit of love. Guide us in all we are trying to do. Dear Father, may Thy blessing rest upon us now. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

DR. HESS: By special request Brother McCann will sing.
(Solo by Mr. C. W. McCann, the audience joining in chorus.)

Will Brother Dierberger lead us in prayer?

REV. MR. DIERBERGER: Our Father and our God, we thank Thee for the love with which Thou hast loved us, the love which gave Jesus Christ, Thy Son, to die for us and make our redemption possible. We thank Thee for Jesus Christ, who came into the world to bring the love of God unto men, and we pray that we may be filled with this love to overflowing. May the love of God which passeth knowledge keep our hearts and minds through Jesus Christ.

Bless us in this afternoon session. Help us in all that we do to honor and glorify Thee. May the Spirit of the Lord lead us, direct us and keep us in the spirit of brotherly love, and may Thy blessing rest upon the deliberations of the afternoon. We thank Thee for all Thou hast been in the ages past, for the blessings Thou hast bestowed on the Church, for the victories Thy church has won. We thank Thee today for the blessed ministry of the Methodist Protestant Church; her ministry in this country and her ministry in other lands; and we pray that this day may be the beginning of greater things in the ministry of our beloved church. Help us today to dedicate ourselves anew to the work of the Lord and to pledge unto Thee more faithful allegiance than we have ever given Thee before, and may we, as a result of this coming together here, be inspired with greater devotion, and with a larger vision and a greater determination for Thy cause and Kingdom than ever before.

We pray Thy blessing on the President of this General Conference. Sustain him, O Lord, by Thy grace and help him in the burdens of his office to know that the everlasting arms of the great God are underneath him. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

DR. HESS: Let us sing No. 16. (Singing)

By special request Mrs. Heburn will sing for us at this time. Mrs. Heburn has charge of the music of this church.

(Solo by Mrs. Heburn.)

DR. HESS: Will Dr. Klein also lead us in prayer?

DR. KLEIN: Almighty and ever-blessed God, our Father, our help cometh from Thee. Thou hast assured us that Thy hand is upon us and that Thou wilt guide us by Thy counsel, and afterward receive us to glory. We are in Thy presence, deeply concerned in the things of Thy Kingdom on earth and we pray Thee for that wisdom which Thou alone canst bestow, that we may wholly discern and wisely decide, and that we may go forth to execute, with Thy fear before our eyes, the things to which we put our hands. We thank Thee that we are in Thy Kingdom; that we have a share in its privileges and blessings and in its responsibilities and activities, and we pray that out of our deliberations here in these meetings may come such results that upon them Thy divine blessing may rest, and we pray that what is done may be done to bring together as one man the forces of our common Zion, and unite those forces, if it is Thy holy will, so that by augmented strength and resources, we may be a mightier power for the conquest of the world than we have ever been before. We pray for a sense of Thy presence. We pray for Thy benediction upon us. We pray for those who are here and those who are absent. Lead

and had been communicated to this Conference through their delegation, then it would have been an act of the Annual Conference and we should take notice of it. But now it has no more status than any other resolution that any other two representatives might offer. And if we take this matter up we can't dispose of the question involved in that resolution. That question has been raised in half a dozen different Conferences. I do not think this Conference has any jurisdiction even if properly before it, to grant the request that that resolution seems to make; I, therefore, do not think the motion is in order.

DR. PERRY (Michigan): It certainly was the last thing in my mind to reflect on the resolution or to try to bar anyone from having a hearing, Colonel Barge or anyone else, but the resolution is ambiguous. It is stated it came from the Conference, and therefore it must have the signature of the President and Secretary. If these men want to bring the resolution, it should have been so stated and heard. We have had a ruling that we are here for one specific purpose, and why hear a communication from anybody except with reference to the business for which we came. I do not interpret this as having any bearing on the question that called us together.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought if this committee was to consider the paper then there certainly would be no feeling on the part of any one but that the General Conference had dealt kindly and even more than kindly with this and every other question. If this paper was considered by five men and then if the report comes in and it is not official, it can be so written on our record.

(Question called for.)

I could easily recognize and decide a point of order, but I request and make it a personal request, that we give the benefit of the doubt to anyone that wants any favors just now, and that we put the question up to a committee of five. They can bring in a decision sustaining what the brethren have said if they see fit.

On the motion being put it was carried.

THE PRESIDENT: I would like the Committee to act immediately. I don't want to appoint the committee, I want you to name it.

DR. PERRY: I move the Chair appoint the committee.

DR. MORGAN: I second the motion.

Upon the motion being put the same was carried.

The President named the following Committee: Dr. Sinkinson, President of the Eastern Conference; George H. Miller, J. P. Morgan, Dr. Perry, Robt. Rawsthorne.

GEO. R. BROWN (West Virginia): I have a paper that I would like permission to read in the form of a protest.

THE PRESIDENT: Is this from the West Virginia Conference?

DR. BROWN: This is from myself.

THE PRESIDENT: I think I can hardly—of course, if it is the wish of the Conference?

DR. BROWN: I am a representative to this body, duly accredited, and if I want to enter a protest to anything I have a perfect right to do it, and I don't think a body like this can choke me off. I am not out of order. There is nothing before the house.

THE PRESIDENT: I wish it to be understood that I did not make any objection to the brother giving a protest. It is the time when—in the afternoon when everything would be open, I thought might be better.

DR. BROWN: I submit I want this protest to come in before anything else is done. (Reads:)

"Whereas, Article 16 of the Constitution of the Methodist Protestant Church provides that after two-thirds of the Annual Conferences shall have voted for a special session of the General Conference, the Presidents of the Annual Conferences, or a majority of them, shall

COLONEL BARGE: There is nothing of that kind. We don't profess we are anything more than representatives here and are merely presenting a petition carrying with it the resolution of the Georgia Annual Conference to this specially called General Conference. That is all we undertake to do. We present that as the representatives of this body.

DR. LUCAS: I would like to make the further point that while I haven't any intention to question the overture of the representative from Georgia, still, is this supposed to be an official paper, without an official signature?

DR. PERRY (Michigan): I think the objection of the Member from Pittsburgh is absolutely sound. The purport of this paper is that it is an official communication from the Georgia Conference and if it is not signed by the President and Secretary it is utterly impossible for us to recognize it.

COLONEL BARGE: I would like to have a word of personal privilege. The time has come when I have completed my duty in this Conference. As a representative from the Georgia District to this Conference I brought a resolution from the Georgia Annual Conference and the point is made that is not the act of the Georgia Annual Conference. Certainly the time has come for me to retire and go back to my own people. Mr. President, this is the saddest time in my life. I came to this General Conference with the hope that something might be done that would save this Church from being torn in twain, but as I see it, there is nothing I can do and my presence here does not add to (if it does take from), the chances of the Methodist Protestant Church to exist in the future. Having performed my duty and protested, and carried out the directions of my Annual Conference, I now wish to withdraw, and not be considered on the list any longer, as having any membership here, I shall return to my home in Georgia.

DR. STEPHENS (Oklahoma): I should like to make an inquiry. I move this be referred to a special committee of five.

COLONEL BARGE: That is the reason I wanted to present that petition. If it is necessary to retire I want to carry out the wishes of my Conference.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I want to make the point that this paper has not been acted upon.

THE PRESIDENT: I have not seen the paper and could not decide as to its official character. The point has been made that this is not the action of the Conference. The point is raised whether this communication is an official one.

A REPRESENTATIVE: The petition carries with it an official action of the Georgia Annual Conference. The rest is from the representatives who are the presenters of the petition.

THE PRESIDENT: The paper is not an official paper of the Conference but incorporates a resolution of the Conference.

COL. BARGE: That is the idea.

THE PRESIDENT: Then the point taken by the representative from Michigan is not—

A REPRESENTATIVE (Pittsburgh): I understood the Gentleman from Georgia to say he was delivering this from his Conference to this Conference and if that is correct it should have the official signature. I move a committee of five be appointed.

THE PRESIDENT: I am not ruling or taking up the parliamentary questions involved. I understand we want to do the biggest thing possible.

MR. PICKENS (North Carolina): I doubt if this is an official act. We can act on this resolution offered by the representative from Georgia. We can act on any resolution, but I don't see how we have any jurisdiction to act on it in its present form. If they had signed it and the resolution was signed by the officers of the Annual Conference

of this body, they are denominational property and this body cannot excuse them. Is not that true?

THE PRESIDENT: That is just what I decided. We can excuse them from further attendance but cannot take their names from the roll.

DR. REYNOLDS: I question if we can do that.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: I feel that this is not the proper time to excuse them for the reason we have just appointed a Committee to consider a paper which they have just presented, and I think in courtesy to this Conference they should remain in their seats until this report is made.

COLONEL BARGE: I think so, myself. We have prolonged our visit. Now it is in the proper channels and we have really no further business in this Conference. I am not willing to shirk my duty. I have never done so and never expect to, but I have come to the point where I cannot do anything and where I have completed my duty to the Georgia Conference, then I think the best thing to do is retire and not be in the midst of people opposed to us.

THE PRESIDENT: There is a motion to adjourn. Rev. Dr. S. S. Stanton will preach at 7:30.

A REPRESENTATIVE: Would it not be a good idea to adjourn until such time as these committees are ready to report?

THE PRESIDENT: A definite time might make it more definite. Suppose we make it four o'clock or sooner if the committees are ready.

A REPRESENTATIVE: Where are they to meet?

THE PRESIDENT: One can meet back there and the other up here (indicating).

COLONEL PICKENS: If we adjourn to meet at four o'clock, may we not advance the time of the meeting of the Executive Committee?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. (to Colonel Pickens) The motion is to recess until four o'clock or until the committee is ready.

DR. PERRY: Will you kindly appoint someone else in my place? I am on both committees.

(Rev. Mr. Saigeon was appointed on the committee of five, to consider petition and protest, in place of Dr. Perry.)

The motion being put to take a recess until 4 o'clock or until the committee was ready to report was carried.

The Conference then recessed until 4 P. M.

After Recess, 4 P. M.

THE PRESIDENT: There are two brief reports ready. The report of the large Denominational Committee will not be ready for a little while. We will now have the reading of the reports which are ready.

THE SECRETARY: I have the report of the Special Committee to consider the protest of the Representatives from the Georgia Conference. The report of this committee is as follows: Is it the desire of the Conference that this petition be read again?

(Reads:)

"Whereas, The Georgia Annual Conference, at its last annual session, directed its representatives in the General Conference, if a Special General Conference should be called, to earnestly protest any hasty action there might be precipitated in such specially called General Conference in reference to Church Union."

The report of the Committee as to that is:

In reference to the protest of the Representatives from the Georgia Conference, your committee would report as follows:

As to item 1. We do not think any hasty action has been taken or will be taken by this Conference."

(Reads further from protest.)

"Whereas, Said Georgia Annual Conference contemplates a regu-

forthwith designate the time and place of holding the same, and give due notice to all stations, circuits and missions; and,

Whereas, After it was ascertained that two-thirds of the Annual Conferences had voted to call a special session of the General Conference, more than six months elapsed before the call was issued; and,

Whereas, Some of the circuits, missions and stations of some of our Conferences were not officially notified of such call as provided in Article 16 of the Constitution of the Methodist Protestant Church,

Therefore, on my own behalf as a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, and as a member of the Conference, as well as on behalf of a number of Methodist Protestants throughout the denomination, I enter a solemn protest against any action this Conference may take at this time, looking toward a union of the Methodist Protestant and United Brethren Churches.

(Signed) GEORGE R. BROWN."

A MEMBER: I move it be referred to the same committee to which the petition offered by Colonel Barge was referred.

DR. BROWN: I make the point, I wanted this protest to go in as a matter of record and as a member of the Conference I think I have a right to request it be made a part of the record. I did not expect you to adopt it. I offered it simply to get it into the record.

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of referring this protest to the committee named will say aye. (Ayes.) All opposed will say no. It will be referred to the committee.

Motion declared carried.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MICHIGAN: I move this Conference take recess subject to the call of the Chair, to permit these committees to confer.

THE PRESIDENT: May I be permitted one remark? Let the lawyers take notice. We waited until the last Conference had voted because no official announcement of the vote could be made until then, Therefore, after—

DR. BROWN: Are you arguing the legality of that paper?

THE PRESIDENT: I am explaining an act of the President of the General Conference.

DR. BROWN: I submit the President has no right without giving the other side an opportunity to argue its case. I submit, if we can go on and state our side of the case, the President can go and state his side.

A REPRESENTATIVE: If there are any more protests, hadn't we better have them now?

REV. MR. McGARRITY: I feel the work has reached its end so far as the representatives of the Georgia Annual Conference are concerned in this called session, and without taking any more precious time, and with no ill feeling in my soul and wishing whatever action you may take may prove to be a blessing to the Lord, and an honor to God, I very kindly ask you, sir, and this body, to release me, as well as my colleague from any further action taken in this body. We have come to represent our constituents. We have done that as best we could, and now we ask that we be no longer recognized as members of this session, and this Conference, and we will retire and go back to our people.

THE PRESIDENT: The request is to excuse the Representatives from Georgia.

COLONEL BARGE: I don't want to be excused. I don't want my name called.

THE PRESIDENT: It is not the business of the General Conference to remove names. The General Conference can excuse representatives, but cannot take names from the list.

DR. REYNOLDS: Since these representatives to this body have been properly elected by their Conferences, and have become a part

wording of that item of the report be changed to correspond with the suggestion of Dr. Lucas.

Motion seconded.

DR. LUCAS: Just read it again. I think we can fix it.

(Secretary reads.)

DR. LUCAS: Your Committee feels that this is a matter over which this General Conference has no jurisdiction.

DR. HESS: It occurs to me that the meaning of that report is clear in itself. I think the report is all right.

DR. LUCAS: It indicates that it might be determined by this body sometime in the future. I think we should assert right here—I think it is of vital importance that this body has no right to deal with a question of that sort.

DR. SINKINSON: The idea of the Committee was to impress on the annual Conference that it had no right.

THE PRESIDENT: I notice the point made is that they wanted to be clear of any ambiguity as to the presumed right of the Annual Conferences.

DR. LUCAS: Remember this makes a precedent for the whole Church.

THE PRESIDENT: Whatever is to be the wording it should include also the right of the Annual Conference.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I move the reference of that item back to the Committee.

Motion seconded and carried.

THE SECRETARY: I have another report from the same Committee, with reference to the protest of Rev. Geo. R. Brown of the West Virginia Conference.

(Reads.)

"In reference to the protest of Rev. Geo. R. Brown, your Committee would report, first, in as much as the Presidents of the Annual Conferences joined in the call for the special session of the General Conference in a little more than a month after the last Annual Conference had voted, we feel that the first item is groundless.

Second, the Presidents of the Annual Conferences joining in the call for the special session of the General Conference, did repeatedly issue said call in our official church papers to our stations, circuits and missions. Therefore, your Committee feels that the second item of the protest is groundless.

(Signed) C. D. SINKINSON,
GEO. H. MILLER,
M. R. SAIGEON,
J. P. MORGAN,
ROBT. RAWSTHORNE."

THE PRESIDENT: What is the pleasure of the Conference?

DR. LELAND: I move the adoption of the report.

REV. MR. COLLIER: I second the motion.

DR. BROWN (West Virginia): In the published report of this Conference, is that paper the only thing that is going to be published or will the protest go along with it so as to make that paper intelligent?

THE PRESIDENT: Does the Conference wish a decision of the Chair or do they want to decide this themselves? I think it should go along with it. I am in favor of the protest going along with it.

DR. LELAND: I rise to a point of order. Without a vote to expunge from the minutes of this Conference it is a matter of record. It is an item of business of this Conference and unless it is so voted by the Conference can not be expunged.

MR. PRESIDENT: There is a motion made and seconded.

MR. PICKENS: Will the Secretary read the report again?

The motion being put by the President was carried.

larly and legally called and assembled special General Conference; and,

"Whereas, The representatives from the Georgia District to this General Conference have already protested the legality of the call of this General Conference and do now protest its legality and insist upon the same, and without waiving any of the rights of the membership of the Church and especially of the Georgia Annual Conference, do hereby submit the following resolution:"

This is the subject to which Item 2 refers.

"As to Item 2, touching on the question of the legality of the special session of the General Conference, the question has already been decided by the President of the General Conference; by the Executive Committee; and finally settled by a decisive vote of this body."

The resolution in the protest is:

"Resolved, That in the event the General Conference be about to form a union with the United Brethren in Christ Church, the delegates from the Georgia Annual Conference do petition our own General Conference to grant to the Georgia Annual Conference and any other Conference of our Church voting against the proposed union, the right to peacefully determine their own Church relations and the further right to continue to hold their present property undisturbed."

Item 3 of the Committee's report is:

"Item 3, bearing on the right of being permitted to adjust the future church relations as they deem best, your committee feels this is a matter which is yet to be determined and a matter for future action."

"Signed: C. D. SINKINSON,
GEO. H. MILLER,
M. R. SAIGEON,
J. P. MORGAN,
ROBT. RAWSTHORNE."

THE PRESIDENT: What is the pleasure of the Conference? You have heard the report.

DR. LUCAS: I move this report be considered seriatim. Seconded and carried.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads Item 1.)

It was moved and seconded and carried that Item 1 be adopted.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads Item 2.)

DR. LUCAS: Mr. President, it is just a matter of verbiage, but I would like to see that changed to say that the question has been decided by the President and Executive Committee and finally settled by the action of this Conference. The suggested wording was accepted by the Committee.

It was moved and seconded that Item 2 be adopted and the motion was carried.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads Item 3.)

DR. LUCAS: Now, Mr. President, if that means that this Committee thinks that this General Conference can determine that in the future, I am opposed to it. I don't think this Conference has anything to do with any question involving property interests. This General Conference has no right to deal with that. If that is to be interpreted, that the action must come in the future, or if it is to be interpreted that this body might in the future grant such a petition, I should not like to see it adopted.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the word if should be put in there. I think it is the sense of the Committee "if" the Conference has that right.

DR. LUCAS: With that interpretation, I am perfectly satisfied.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I move that the

of Thy Kingdom. We know Thou art with us and we are willing to trust Thee. We ask it all through Christ. Amen.

REV. MR. GOULD: Let us sing, "He Leadeth Me." (Singing.)

DR. STULTZ: Will Rev. Mr. Saigeon of Michigan lead us in prayer?

MR. SAIGEON: Almighty and Everlasting God, reverently would we bow in Thy presence, acknowledging Thy supremacy and our obligation to Thee; acknowledging Thee as our Lord and this as Thy service and would earnestly acknowledge the mercy and blessings Thou hast given us in the past. We thank Thee for the privilege of calling upon Thee this morning, and, Dear Father, while we are Thy redeemed ones, we pray we may place ourselves in Thy hands for service, and pray God to use us for the advancement of His Kingdom and for His glory. Grant to preside over this service, and grant the result of this meeting may be such as will be well pleasing to Thee; that we may be the instruments working out Thy plan, and that whatever plan is adopted may be worked out in Thy wisdom and with Thine approval. May Thy Holy Spirit abide in the hearts of Thy people. And we pray Thy presence and Thy power this morning, and that men and women may feel Thy presence and realize Thou art guiding us. We pray we may listen attentively to the word of the Spirit and follow very earnestly the line he may point out; and we pray a blessing on our President and upon all those laboring so earnestly to bring about this great union of churches. We pray that Thou wilt go with us in the future; even as Thou hast in the past blessed this Methodist Protestant Church and hast used it for the glory of Thy name, so whether we remain as a separate body or are united in a united body, we pray Thou wilt use us in a larger measure for the days and years that are to come, and may our chief object in the days and years that are to come be the glory of the Divine Master. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

MR. GOULD: 191. "Saviour, Like A Shepherd Lead Us." (Singing.)

DR. STULTZ: Will Brother Mouser lead us in prayer?

REV. MR. MOUSER: O God, our Heavenly Father, we come into Thy presence this morning. We pray Thou wilt bless us in all the walks of life as Thou hast blessed us in the past, and especially we pray for Thy blessing to rest upon us today. May the Holy Spirit guide us and lead us in the deliberations of this day. We pray, our Father, that all that we do and all that we say may be to the glory of God—may be the best for Thy Kingdom and for our good. We pray Thou wilt help our officers in this great work for righteousness. We pray Thou wilt bless our brethren and give them wisdom to carry out this great work and help us to stand by him in the great work Thou hast given us to do. We pray Thou wilt make us such men and such a Conference as will be a greater blessing to Thy Kingdom and to Thy great cause. We pray Thou wilt keep us and guide us not only today, but throughout life. In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

MR. GOULD: 131. (Singing.)

DR. STULTZ: Will Dr. Reynolds lead us in prayer?

DR. REYNOLDS: O Thou great and loving Christ, still continue to be patient with us and help us to be more helpful to Thee in extending the Kingdom of Love. We pray Thou wilt so re-enforce and help us that our limitations and insufficiency shall not be seen in the things that are done. May we be face to face with the work of the Kingdom and the preaching of the gospel of salvation in this world. If we are living to ourselves we know there could be nothing but failure registered against us. Help us to remember always that with God sufficiently with us we are able to do what he expects of us. We pray therefore for Thy continual blessing of the divine power, which we can get alone through the presence and agency of the Holy Ghost. May we ever be able to verify the statement of Jesus

REV. MR. JOHNSON (Muskingum): I would like to make a motion. I am in favor of the public and members of the Methodist Protestant Church knowing all about the proceedings of this body, and therefore, I want to move that the minutes and stenographic report of this meeting be published in one publication under the editorship of the Secretary and that it shall be placed on sale for the widest possible distribution at the cheapest rate advisable.

DR. BROWN: I second the motion.

The motion being put by the President was carried.

DR. MILLER: I move we adjourn until the regular hour for meeting tomorrow morning.

DR. COBURN: I wish the President would announce a meeting of the Executive Committee.

THE PRESIDENT: I perfectly understand that a number of the brethren wish to go home. I hope everybody will stay until the action has been taken tomorrow and we want every one here at the specified time. I believe you all want to be here when that historic, progressive step is taken—progressive but not conclusive. I hope everybody will be here.

DR. GARRISON: The Church Union Committee has a meeting at nine o'clock. The committee will be ready at the opening of the session but not before.

THE PRESIDENT: We are ready for a motion to adjourn.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I move we adjourn until nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

The motion to adjourn was seconded and carried.

THE PRESIDENT: We will close with the benediction.

REV. MR. JACKSON: Our Father and our God, help us through this day. We thank Thee for the blessings we have enjoyed. Now dismiss us with Thy blessing and accompany us to our several places of abode; keep us through life and save us at last. Amen.

(Adjourned.)

Columbus, Ohio, July 16, 1914.

Morning Session, 9 o'clock A. M.

Dr. Louis D. Stultz presiding.

Rev. Mr. Gould led in the singing.

DR. STULTZ: Will President Strickler of Kansas lead us in prayer?

DR. STRICKLER: Our Father in Heaven, we come before Thee as we open this session, desiring to return thanks for the blessings we have all about us all along the way of our lives. We realize how often we have taken these gifts of Thine without thinking from whence they came. Forgive us for this, thoughtlessness. We thank Thee for the manner in which Thou art leading us and the consciousness we have Thou wilt bring out Thy best purpose in the work of Thy Kingdom. Help us, our Father, to be willing to do as Thou wouldst have us and if we must suffer anything in pain and disappointment, so far as our thoughts and hopes are concerned, help us to say, "Thy Will be done." Help us to bring about the end that will honor the Lord Jesus Christ and help us to hasten the day when Thy Kingdom will be the greatest desire, whatever we must suffer for the sake of Thy work. Help us in this morning's deliberations. May the words that are spoken be carefully and lovingly spoken, and may the action that may be taken be decisive and positive that we cannot misunderstand; and may it be of that character that will mean most to Thine honor and glory. We thank Thee for the privilege of engaging in these deliberations, and for the responsibility Thou hast seen fit to place upon us in letting us try to perform our duty in the work

the committees which are seeking to outline the proper course of procedure. May the Holy Spirit overshadow them. May He reveal Thy will to this Conference, and may our church throughout her borders be brought into the spirit of real devotion as they shall remember us who are here seeking to do Thy will. Lead us in all things for Thy name's sake, and for Thy glory.

REV. MR. GOULD: Our Heavenly Father, we come at this time, praying especially for the leading of the Holy Spirit. We would not do anything contrary to Thy will or contrary to the extension of the Kingdom of Christ. We pray Thy will may show plainly to us, that the Spirit of God may lead us plainly, and whatever is the will of God, may we express it in our action here. We pray our hearts will be sensitive to the interests of the Holy One, who is able to lead us not only in this hour, but in the days that are to come.

DR. LeCLAR: O God, we ask Thee, Thou who art God the Father, God the Son and the Holy Ghost to keep us, and we pray the almightiness of Thy love and Thy presence may still keep us and direct us and guide every one of us that we may get a vision of Thy purpose and the perfection of Thy plan; and we ask Thy blessing to rest on every Conference in the denomination and every individual member of this General Conference wherever they may be. Grant, O Heavenly Father, divine grace may rest on the deliberations of this day. May the conclusion of this day shine forth through all the avenues of our beloved Church and may the gospel of Jesus Christ be assisted by our work today. In Jesus' name.

DR. STULTZ: O Lord, our God, we lift up our souls unto Thee for increased life and peace and strength, that in all things we may seek to do Thy will here as it is done in heaven. Grant, our Father, that Thy will should prevail in this Conference, and grant that each shall simply have a desire to work for Thy glory and the advancement of Thy Kingdom and each do the right and proper thing for this day and hour. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

DR. STULTZ: We will have a song, "I Need Thee Every Hour." (Singing.)

Conference was then declared to be open for business, with Dr. Stultz in the Chair.

DR. STULTZ: The call of the roll will be passed by for the present. We shall therefore call for a reading of the minutes.

THE SECRETARY: I would like to ask if Rev. L. S. Kidd is in the room? And if Mrs. Wilson is here? (Hands letters and telegram.)

(The Secretary here reads the minutes of July 15, 1914.)

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the reading of the minutes. If there is no objection they stand approved.

REV. MR. MILLER: I notice that where the Executive Committee makes the report that they sustained the President, the Secretary has left out the word "unanimously;" personally, I would like to see that word go in.

THE CHAIRMAN: If there is no objection that will be incorporated.

DR. STANTON: Were there not two objections reported against that resolution?

THE SECRETARY: The minutes say, "the resolution was adopted by standing vote." It was the judgment of the Secretary that no reference need be made to the dissenting votes, as there were only two voting in the negative.

MR. MILLER: I am referring to the report made by the Executive Committee.

THE SECRETARY: I have the item to which Brother Miller refers and have made the correction.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Secretary will read the minutes as corrected. (Secretary here reads the items corrected.)

Christ when he said, "Ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost has come unto you." May he not only come upon us but may he stay upon us and may there be such illumination and such divine help and wisdom that our human agencies may be sufficient to carry out the divine plan.

O Lord, we pray for the success of this movement in which we are all so profoundly interested and out of which we hope so much good might come. O Lord, if it be possible may it succeed. May there be such a disposition on the part of all who serve that we shall take the greatest pride in doing the best things for all concerned and for the glory of God. May this be a crowning day for the Kingdom of God, not only in our hearts, but over all the region where we have any plans and interests to extend the Kingdom of God. Oh hear us, we beseech Thee, for we know Thou art able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to Thy riches in glory, by Christ Jesus. Amen.

MR. GOULD: No. 24. Mr. McCann sang this for us yesterday and I believe we all know it well enough to sing it. (Singing.)

DR. STULTZ: Dr. Hart, President of the West Virginia Conference, will lead us in prayer.

DR. HART: Our Gracious Heavenly Father, we thank Thee that we may come in the spirit of love and in the attitude of worshipers, humble worshipers of the Most High. We thank Thee, O Lord, that in the past Thou hast patiently heard our prayers; Thou hast led us by Thy hand along many dark and shadowy paths, many where we could not see the light shining before us, yet, we have, through the assistance of Thy divine grace been able to trust in Thee and press on. We have the assurance again and again that the light continually shines and that Thy loving kindness is not withdrawn; that Thou dost continually care for all who trust in Thee. O Lord, in the midst of our difficulties and in the great issue that presents itself to our whole church, we pray that whatever may be done all may be submissive to Thy will and be guided by Thy counsels in the way of truth and righteousness for Thy name's sake, in as much as we know not what we should do, in as much as we realize it may not be possible to see alike, understand alike and interpret Thy will in harmony with each other and in harmony to these various things, help us to be faithful and prayerful and considerate as we understand the great responsibility devolving upon us, that we shall do nothing hasty and that we shall be guided for the promotion of Thy cause and the promotion of Thy name and by the very best and careful consideration. Guide us by Thy counsels, bless this Conference, and God, grant to bless, too, the individual membership of the Conference, and wherever we may go in the duties that shall devolve upon us in the days to come, we pray we may be more efficient workers in the Master's Kingdom. We pray that whatever may be done we may be loyal and true and faithful soldiers of Christ that we may bring forth a harvest of 30, 60 and even an hundred fold. Keep us by Thy counsels and receive us ultimately to Thyself, we pray in His name. Amen.

MR. GOULD: No. 222, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." (Singing.)

DR. STULTZ: We cannot be too much in prayer. Shall we bow our heads and give you an opportunity of giving sentence prayers? Who will be the first, and the others follow?

REV. MR. BECK: O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, in this moment we need Thee. Great forces are in operation, great results are dependent upon decisions being made in this hour. We most earnestly pray for wisdom and guidance. We want Thy will to be done in all; we pray that Thy Holy Spirit shall lead us in all our thoughts and all our planning, in our desires, and in our every purpose. O Lord, lead us in all the deliberations of this hour. Bless

the name "United Protestant." There is a brother here from Arkansas, who claims the credit for that suggestion. Dr. Jackson, of Arkansas.

REV. M. C. JACKSON: Little did I think when I suggested that name that it would make me at any time conspicuous. I will just give a brief history of the matter as it occurred to me.

There seemed to be some difficulty, you all remember, about determining on a name suitable for the united church. On my way to the last General Conference in 1912, on the 17th day of May, in the forenoon, myself with my colleague, Brother Stephenson, were in the waiting room at Washington, D. C. When we walked in there were two gentlemen sitting there who seemed to be very nice men—you know sometimes we preachers preach by our deportment. We took them to be Conference delegates and on the way to the Conference, as they had their grips as we had. We introduced ourselves and to our surprise we found they were United Brethren who had been attending some one of their official meetings of some sort. The next question that arose was asked by the United Brethren. They asked this question: "How do you stand on the Union question?" I said, "Personally, I favor it." Brother Stephenson answered the same way. These brethren to whom I have referred, said, "Well, we wouldn't like to be called 'Methodists.'" "No," said I, "we wouldn't like to be called 'United Brethren.'" I then suggested that I had a name I thought was very appropriate. He said, "What is it?" I said I thought that "The United Protestant Church" would be very appropriate. They both said, "We will accept that."

I do not know, brethren, whether either of these men were members of the Commission or not. I have forgotten their names. One of them gave me his card but I got it misplaced. When I saw what had been done by the Commission about the name—I said to my wife, "Why, they have adopted the name I suggested." I have had one consolation and that is that it is true that great minds run in the same channels.

Now, brethren, that is a name that to me seemed appropriate and it seems to me that the Methodist Protestant Church could just as well initiate a name that all Christian believers could come to as anybody else. So, if we are Protestants, we ought to be United Protestants, and if we be united we will be United Protestants.

Now, I do not claim the honor of having suggested the name. Perhaps I did do it, and so far as my knowledge extends I did. If somebody else did and he is not ashamed to acknowledge it, I wish he would stand up. I thank you, Mr. President, for the privilege you have given me to explain the way it came about that the name was first suggested by your humble servant. If it be true that I am the originator of the name, and it goes down in history after you are all United, Arkansas will not be ashamed of it.

THE PRESIDENT: Can we have another song?

THE SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, there is one matter I should like to call to the attention of the Conference. On account of the ruling of the Chair, that only business pertaining to the Union could be transacted, I have withheld my report as Secretary and Treasurer of the General Conference, but I want to say this word to those who are present. The Executive Committee has levied an assessment to the Annual Conference for General Conference expenses. This is an annual assessment to the conferences and should be apportioned to the several charges. Such apportionment is being made by most of our conferences, but many of the charges are not paying these assessments. The total amount assessed for Conference expenses is only a thousand dollars. This is not a large sum, and it means a very small sum to every charge. I think if the assessment was ten thousand, we might have greater notice given to it, but because it is so small, some of the pastors forget it. Two or three of our larger conferences have ignored this assessment entirely. Some of the smaller ones

THE CHAIRMAN: If there are no other objections, the Chair will declare the minutes adopted. I so declare.

THE SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, I have on the table a report from the Special Committee to consider the petition of the representatives from Georgia, with reference to Item 3, which was re-committed. Items 1 and 2 were adopted. Item 3 is as follows, as submitted by the Committee:

"Bearing on the right of being permitted to adjust their future church relations as they deem best, your Committee believes that no Annual Conference can claim such a right and that it is not within the province of this body to grant this request."

This is signed by your Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: What is your pleasure?

A MEMBER: I move the report be adopted.

(Seconded.)

MR. MORGAN (of Alabama): I don't agree with that entirely, although a member of that Committee. That is an opinion, of course, and I wish to express it, without making any speech.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you ready for the question?

(Question called for.)

The motion was put by the Chairman, and carried.

THE CHAIRMAN: Shall we adopt the report as a whole?

A MEMBER: I move the adoption of the report as a whole.

The motion was seconded and carried.

THE CHAIRMAN: Will the representative from Iowa just ascertain if the Committee will be out soon?

MR. S. GOULD (of Michigan): I expect as a Church we are making history today. The President of the Michigan Conference is detained at home today on account of serious illness, but Brother C. W. Stephenson, of Detroit, is here, and I move he be permitted to take an honorary seat in this Conference in place of Brother Cole.

(Seconded.)

REV. DR. NUTT (of Iowa): The Committee to consider the Basis of Union say they will be able to report in a few minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, those brethren will occupy two or three minutes. Let us give ourselves to song and prayer. There is a great responsibility resting upon us.

REV. MR. GOULD: Let us sing No. 27. "Down at the Cross Where My Saviour Died." (Singing.)

THE CHAIRMAN: The Committee will be ready in a minute. I see Dr. C. E. Wilbur, editor of the Sunday School periodicals, and I wish to say that he has recently been elected a member of the International Lesson Committee, so our denomination will have a representative there. Let us have a word from Dr. Wilbur.

(Dr. Davis here takes the Chair.)

DR. WILBUR: I was elected an honorary member at the last Conference, and I still consider I am an honorary member of the Conference. I appreciate the invitation.

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of inviting Dr. Forelines to an honorary seat and the privileges of the floor, say aye.

The motion carried.

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of making Mr. Pierpont, of Pittsburgh, an honorary member of the Conference, say aye.

The motion carried.

THE PRESIDENT: Brother Wagner comes from the Avondale United Brethren Church, and Brother Reibel is a retired minister of the United Brethren Church.

(Applause.)

All in favor of giving these brethren honorary seats say aye.

Motion carried.

THE PRESIDENT: Controversy may arise as to who suggested

Muskingum—

Charles H. Beck
 C. E. Sheppard
 D. C. Coburn
 G. H. Miller
 C. S. Johnson
 D. G. Jackson
 S. T. Allen
 D. C. Wees
 A. Weedon
 H. A. Sicker
 J. F. Cappel
 F. W. Stone
 Newton Price
 A. N. Fell
 U. N. Keller
 W. M. Crum

Eastern—

F. W. Varney
 C. D. Sinkinson
 Louis Stultz
 Samuel McClain
 G. T. Goff
 F. W. Grohs

North Carolina—

R. T. Pickens

North Missouri—

C. R. Green
 J. W. Fonda

North Illinois—

A. J. Christy
 T. P. Collier
 Jacob Roberts
 Anna R. Wilson

Ohio—

M. R. Stover
 Peter LeClar
 A. O. Horney
 A. L. Reynolds
 C. E. Custis
 E. W. Gillespie
 Jos. Corfman

Onondaga—

I. A. Price
 W. M. Pasco

Oklahoma—

D. S. Stephens

Pittsburgh—

J. C. Broomfield
 J. Sala Leland
 J. H. Lucas
 C. L. Daugherty
 F. W. Perkins
 Lyman E. Davis
 F. F. Brierly
 Robt. Rawsthorne, Jr.
 Thos. C. Miller
 Jas. Irwin

South Illinois—

B. S. Billings

Texas—

T. L. Garrison

West Virginia—

G. H. Snyder
 A. F. Hess
 Geo. R. Brown
 J. N. Holt
 J. Jay Phillips
 U. W. Morrison
 A. D. Williams
 C. D. Barbe
 J. C. Roane
 J. W. Ruttencutter
 Dr. J. B. Watson
 John H. Long
 Green Ruttencutter

Rev. F. T. Tagg was present, but did not respond to his name when called.

THE PRESIDENT: That completes the roll-call.

A REPRESENTATIVE: The Pennsylvania delegates were omitted.

THE SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, the Pennsylvania Conference is now included in the Eastern Conference, and their names were called in connection with the Eastern Conference.

MR. A. D. WILLIAMS (West Virginia): Mr. Abbott, a lay member of our Conference, is not present and Brother Green Ruttencutter is here. He was seated as an alternate in the Baltimore Conference, but was not able to serve, so it was agreed that his brother, J. H. Ruttencutter, should serve. Brother Green Ruttencutter is here and I move he be seated in the place of Mr. Abbott.

THE SECRETARY: The Chairman of the West Virginia delegation presented proper credentials, and he has been enrolled. Brother Ruttencutter's name was called and he answered to his name.

DR. STEPHENS: Are you ready for business?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. Let me say a word. The ladies

are paying the assessment in full. Some of these who are larger might well profit by their example.

THE SECRETARY: This resolution has just been handed me. I think we may have it read and take such action as we deem proper.

Columbus, Ohio, July 16, 1914.

Whereas, In the assembling of this Special Session of the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church it has been possible to secure an attendance of more than a majority of all the representatives of this body; and,

Whereas, The members and friends of the First Church, and Grace Church have kept open house to the members of the General Conference; and,

Whereas, The splendid new First Church has been placed at our disposal for the purpose of holding this special session; and,

Whereas, The pastors of these churches, Revs. H. F. Gould, and E. D. Beck, have been untiring in their efforts to provide for our comfort and pleasure; and,

Whereas, Special music has been provided by Mrs. Heburn, and Mr. C. W. McCann, of the First Church; and,

Whereas, The business of the Conference has been transacted in a very great spirit of harmony; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we express our gratitude,

First, To our Heavenly Father, who has made the success of this special session of the General Conference possible;

Second, To the Representatives, who have left their homes, their labors, and their business to come to this place to transact business for the Kingdom;

Third, To the pastors, members, and friends of our Columbus churches, who have done so much to make our stay among them pleasant and helpful.

(Signed) ELY D. MILLER,
GEORGE H. MILLER,
E. T. HOWE,
A. F. HESS,
J. P. MORGAN.

~~THE RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS STANDING VOTE.~~

THE PRESIDENT: The members of the General Conference will come within the bar and the Secretary will call the roll.

The Secretary then proceeded to call the roll and the following delegates answered present:

Alabama—

T. C. Cassaday
J. P. Morgan
A. C. Rogers

Arkansas—

M. C. Jackson
J. M. Stephenson

Indiana—

J. O. Ledbetter
S. S. Stanton
P. W. Dierberger
J. W. Albright
E. T. Howe
A. T. Merriman
W. C. Williams
A. L. Poundstone
F. A. Blaising

Iowa—

J. A. Nutt
A. H. Linder
J. E. Peterson
A. M. Kopf

Kansas—

T. J. Strickler
A. L. Cook

Louisiana—

E. M. Mouser
A. W. Stewart

Maryland—

F. C. Klein
T. D. Woodford

Michigan—

F. A. Perry
M. R. Saigeon
Ely D. Miller
Simon Gould
E. L. Hursley

Respectfully submitted,

F. A. PERRY, Michigan	D. S. STEPHENS, Oklahoma
A. J. CHRISTY, N. Illinois	J. C. BROOMFIELD, Pittsburgh
C. S. JOHNSON, Muskingum	C. R. GREEN, N. Missouri
T. R. WOODFORD, Maryland	A. H. LINDER, Iowa
R. T. PICKENS, N. Carolina	A. W. STEWART, Louisiana
J. M. STEPHENSON, Arkansas	T. C. CASSADAY, Alabama
F. W. VARNEY, Eastern	I. A. BRICE, Onondaga
B. S. BILLINGS, S. Illinois	A. L. COOK, Kansas
A. L. POUNDSTONE, Indiana	A. O. HORNEY, Ohio
A. D. WILLIAMS, West Virginia	T. L. GARRISON, Texas

THE PRESIDENT: Is it your pleasure to proceed to the discussion?

REPRESENTATIVE FROM N. ILLINOIS: I think it is very important that every member become conversant with the subject matter of that report, and I move that typewritten copies be made of that report and distributed to the members during the noon hour so that each one may have a copy of that report before we undertake to adopt it.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I move as a substitute for the original motion that we print 200 copies for distribution, during the noon hour.

THE PRESIDENT: Will the mover accept that?

MR. PICKENS: I think it is a wise move to give this due consideration. I understand that there are a number here anxious to leave. I think they ought to stay until night. I think it is a very important matter and should be adjusted. If you will stay here alright, if not, I think we ought to take some other way to get this before the Conference. I think you ought to stay. It is of vast importance and you can't do an important thing in a hurry. With half a dozen suggesting we can't get a thing formulated in the proper shape. I would suggest that this committee go along and strike out and put in the United Brethren name properly and make some readjustments of that resolution, and I hope you will agree to take time to have this done as it should be done.

DR. LUCAS: I want to concur most thoroughly with Brother Pickens. If there are men not sufficiently interested in this great cause to stay until it can be properly discussed and analyzed, let them go home. Those of us who are interested, let us stay. We want everybody to stay, of course, but let us thoroughly understand this paper. If it takes until next week, let us understand this paper.

DR. PERRY: I have been wondering what anybody came here for who wants to go home before this paper is considered. If we are going home before this is done, we might as well have stayed at home. We came to this Conference for the purpose of considering this paper now coming before us, and I can't conceive of anybody—

J. P. MORGAAN (Alabama): I appreciate the gravity of this paper, but I believe if we take the paper and let the Chairman read it and consider it seriatim, we can do it as thoroughly as if copies were before us. I think the proper thing is to take a recess for lunch and re-assemble and consider the paper.

THE PRESIDENT: The motion by the Member from Muskingum is that 200 copies be printed.

The motion was put and carried.

MR. MILLER: I move we recess until 1 o'clock.

Motion seconded and unanimously carried.

Benediction by Rev. Mr. Jackson of Muskingum (inaudible to reporter).

The Conference then recessed until 1 o'clock.

report that the dinner is waiting on the table, but I think the report could be read and we could then digest it with the dinner.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I move we take recess for dinner.

DR. STEPHENS: The Committee on the Report of the Church Union Commission is ready to report. The Secretary is ready to read the report if it is the desire of the Chair.

THE PRESIDENT: We will have the report.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the report which was as follows:

Columbus, Ohio, July 16, 1914.

Your Committee appointed to consider the report of our Commission on Union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, reports as follows:

Whereas, Our Commission on Church Union appointed by the General Conference to negotiate a basis of union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Methodist Episcopal Church or the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has met with a Commission from the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and has agreed upon a Basis of Union, which Basis of Union our Commission has reported to this session of the General Conference; and,

Whereas, In the submission of the report on the Basis of Union, we regard the work of our Commission to be complete, in so far as it pertains to the union of the Methodist Protestant Church, with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Conference hereby accepts and adopts the Basis of Union agreed upon by our Commission and the said Commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. That we thank the Commission for their painstaking efforts in accomplishing this great work.

Resolved, Second: That we create a special commission of fifteen members consisting of seven laymen and seven ministers and the President of this General Conference, as ex-officio chairman, whose duty it shall be to meet at the earliest possible date with the Commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ to consider the further details in the process of union. That all memorials from Annual Conferences to this General Conference bearing upon the subject of union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ be referred to this Joint Commission to be considered by it.

Resolved, Third: That when the membership of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ shall have ratified the Basis of Union herein adopted, the President of this General Conference is authorized to confer with the proper authorities of the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ as to time and place arranged and agreed upon for a meeting of the General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ and that we request that the same be not earlier than December 1st, 1914, nor later than May 31, 1915, and that when this Conference adjourns it adjourns to reconvene at the call of the President.

Resolved, Fourth: That the following persons shall compose the Special Commission:

Ministerial.

Dr. L. E. Davis, Pennsylvania
Dr. C. D. Sinkinson, New Jersey
Dr. U. W. Morrison, W. Va.
Dr. T. L. Garrison, Texas
Dr. W. H. Bentley, New York
Dr. C. E. Sheppard, Ohio
Dr. D. S. Stephens, Kansas
Dr. J. S. Bowers, Maryland

Laymen.

R. T. Pickens, North Carolina
J. F. Howe, Missouri
J. E. Peterson, Iowa
Horace Link, Illinois
Dr. Simmons, Arkansas
A. T. Merriman, Indiana
Ely D. Miller, Michigan

price. Now, there are two or three questions I would like to ask: First, is it your desire that we have the running minutes as they were read this morning, or, is it your desire to have them brought together in one account? That is one thing I should like to have you answer. Another is this: Is it your desire that the Secretary have these published and be responsible for their cost and sale, etc., or will you order them to be printed and sold by our book concerns? Is it your desire to have the pamphlet included which has been distributed here—some have suggested that this be included.

THE PRESIDENT: You have heard the inquiry, what is your pleasure?

MR. JOHNSON (Muskingum): I was the originator of this motion. My thought was that the entire matter, including the editorship of both the minutes and the stenographic report should be in the hands of the Secretary, as well as the publication and sale of said report. I am willing to trust the Secretary to edit this and get it before the people in proper form.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: Mr. Chairman, I imagine it would be quite a help to the Secretary if we will ask the publishing house to at least take care of the publication and sale. The Secretary can prepare the copy and be responsible but our publishing house is surely in better position to attend to the publication and sale. I would like to make a motion that the printing be turned over to the publishing house in Pittsburgh.

REV. MR. JOHNSON (Muskingum): That is involved in the motion. The Secretary is authorized to have this printed wherever he deems best. I would not favor tying the Secretary's hands in that.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM OHIO: Mr. President, can we have the resolution read.

THE PRESIDENT: While the Secretary is looking for that, I will report that I have a card from Prof. Holt, of North Carolina, regretting his absence on account of illness. He is at Clifton Springs, and states that he will be here before we adjourn if his health permits. And from Brother Allen, of Arkansas, saying his health forbids him to come, and giving the President of the General Conference his proxy, which the President, of course, will decline to use, though he appreciates the confidence expressed, and the Secretary will have one or two others to report before we close.

THE SECRETARY: This is the resolution (Reads)—“On motion of Mr. Johnson, of Muskingum, the Secretary is authorized to edit and publish the minutes and stenographic report of this special session of the General Conference and to place the same on sale at the lowest possible price.”

DR. LUCAS: I understand then that the Secretary of the General Conference is responsible for the expense. We are not referring it to the book concern, and the General Conference, according to this motion, takes the responsibility for the publication and sale of these minutes. Isn't it best to refer that to the publishing house to take care of this expense?

REV. MR. JOHNSON: My idea was this should be left to the option of the Secretary? If, in his judgment, it seems best to have this taken to the publishing house, well and good.

THE SECRETARY: The Representative from Pittsburgh has touched the kernel of this matter. If it is the General Conference's order that the publishing house at Pittsburgh take the responsibility the financial matter is transferred to the publishing house and if there is a deficit it is charged up to the loss account by order of the General Conference. If the Secretary assumes the publication of this report, then it becomes General Conference expense and must be charged to our own expense account, I think this Conference ought to settle the matter definitely, whether you want to charge it

July 16, 1914.

Afternoon Session, 1 O'clock, P. M.

Dr. Davis called the Conference to order.

THE PRESIDENT: I would like to have everybody come with in the bar. Brother McCann is going to sing to us. You all want to hear him.

(Solo by Mr. McCann. No. 142. "I am Far From My Home (Scotch).")

THE PRESIDENT: Rev. Brother McClain, of the Eastern Conference, will lead us in prayer.

MR. McCLAIN: Our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for this hour and for the privileges and blessings that Thou hast brought to us through a well-directed chain of Divine Providence. Thou art from everlasting to everlasting. Help us to appreciate Thy love and Thy mercy exercised over us. We are here, Our Father, to ask Thy guidance and Thy Spirit to lead us. We are Thy children and we desire to be Thy children not only by creation but by adoption and to become heirs to the inheritance that is incorruptible, undefiled and which fadeth not away. We are here, Our Father, to transact business pertaining to Thy cause and Thy Church militant on earth. Oh, how much we need Thee to guide us. Help, us, Our Father, to so discharge our duty and the work we have come here to perform, so that we may not be ashamed and may we realize that from this gathering great good may follow. We ask Thy blessing on every member of this Conference. Grant to bless the executive officer; bless everyone that may assemble here on this occasion, and grant, Our Father, that Thy Kingdom may come and Thy will be done on earth as it is done in Heaven. Now we commit ourselves into Thy hands. Bless our dear brother who presides over this Conference. Grant, O, Father, to lead him and direct him as Thou wouldst have him go, and when we have finished our work assigned us here that all may be redeemed and blood-washed and sanctified to Thy name's honor and glory. Save us, we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.

THE PRESIDENT: Dr. Reynolds, of Ohio, will please lead us in prayer.

DR. REYNOLDS: Most merciful God, our Heavenly Father, we offer to Thee our most grateful thanksgiving for Thy constant mercy and greatness to us. We thank Thee Thou hast permitted us to share with Jesus Christ in the great work of planning and extending the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. We pray for such a divine inspiration to guide and strengthen us that not one man here shall not feel called to the work to which Thou hast called us, that we may not disappoint Thee and ourselves. May the riches of Thy grace so abound in us that we shall be sufficient for the things to which Thou hast called us. May we be so helped and guided that we will be equal to the things that God expects of us. May Thy blessing so rest upon us now as we proceed to the consideration of this great matter contained in the report that is before us. We pray for the spirit of fairness and honesty and sincerity and such a recognition of God's will that we shall be able to do the things that please Thee. In beseeching Thee for these things we trust in Thee that Thou shalt so help us that we shall be able to carry out our part of the work to the praise and glory of our Great Christ. Amen.

THE PRESIDENT: Sing a verse of "He Leadeth Me."

THE SECRETARY: Brother President, there was a matter mentioned yesterday concerning which I would like just a little further instruction. A motion was passed instructing the Secretary to edit the stenographic report of this Conference and to publish it in a pamphlet with the minutes and place it on sale at the lowest possible

concern. The Board of Publication, of course, includes both publishing houses, and I think it will be satisfactory to the Baltimore concern—the minutes to be on sale, and the pamphlets to be distributed as the committee deems wise.

THE PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion that the President and Secretary constitute a committee authorized and directed to publish the stenographic report and the minutes in one pamphlet to be published by the Board of Publication and in another pamphlet such information for the general church on the Basis of Union, as this committee shall see fit.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM OHIO: Might it not be possible that the Committee on Publicity might have still further work, and might it not be ordered that this committee shall continue to be useful in case they deem it necessary to publish other matter. I should think this ought to be a Common Publicity Committee and with the understanding that it be continued.

THE PRESIDENT: Will the mover accept that?

T. R. WOODFORD (Maryland): I accept that.

The motion was seconded and on being put by the President carried.

T. R. WOODFORD (Maryland): I have a resolution which may require the reconsideration of your action in the matter of adopting the minutes of yesterday. I will read my resolution and then the Chair will please consider whether it is necessary to reconsider the adoption of the minutes. (Reads:)

“Resolved, That the protest presented at this special session by Rev. G. R. Brown and all reference to the same be expunged from our minutes.”

(Signed) T. R. WOODFORD,
F. W. PERKINS.”

If I understand, the minutes of yesterday include this and they are adopted.

THE PRESIDENT: The minutes would have to be reconsidered.

DR. LUCAS: Do the minutes have to be re-considered for expunging?

THE PRESIDENT: Those minutes are adopted.

MR. WOODFORD (Maryland): I was not here for the adoption.

MR. CHRISTY (North Illinois): I move the re-consideration of the minutes.

DR. LUCAS: I second the motion of Brother Woodford, of Maryland. I think I am right when I say you can expunge from the minutes a thousand years old, if you want to.

MR. JOHNSON: The expunging process does not necessarily expunge it from the stenographic report. I am willing to have it expunged from the minutes provided it appear in the stenographic report, whatever disposition we make of it in reference to the minutes.

DR. LUCAS: Isn't the stenographic report to be the official minutes, one and the same thing? Are they not identical?

MR. JOHNSON: There is this difference between the minutes and the stenographic report, as I understand it, the stenographic report is a report of the things said as well as done. Everything that is said is to be included in that, even the prayers that were offered, but the minutes is simply a record of the transaction of this body.

THE PRESIDENT: Any further remarks?

A MEMBER: Is Dr. Brown present?

THE PRESIDENT: I believe not.

REV. MR. LEDBETTER: I stand in opposition to this action. Dr. Brown wants to be put on record, and unless he wants to send in an apology to this Conference, I think this ought to be put down

against the General Conference expense account or transfer it to the publishing house and hold them responsible for the publication.

DR. PERKINS (Pittsburgh): I move we re-consider the action taken in regard to the publication of the notes and minutes of this meeting.

Motion seconded and carried.

THE PRESIDENT: I want to make an explanation here. There is a common understanding between the chairman of the two commissions and also endorsed by others of the commission, that there will be a campaign of information, and somebody suggests that there ought to be some printed matter. Could you not include all of this under one general plan? It seems to me that the two plans could go together.

DR. LELAND: Can the resolution be read?

(Original motion of Mr. Johnson read.)

REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALABAMA: My motion now is that we amend it so that the Secretary shall edit this matter and it be turned over to the Board of Publication for publication and sale.

(Seconded.)

THE PRESIDENT: It includes now simply the stenographic report.

DR. PERRY: I didn't understand your request, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: I thought and others who spoke about it thought the question of the educational plan might be embodied in this motion.

DR. PERRY: Would it not be proper to refer this to a committee?

THE PRESIDENT: I think that would be a good idea.

DR. PERRY: This question will be first disposed of.

THE PRESIDENT: (Puts the motion.) Which place, Pittsburgh or Baltimore?

Mr. Morgan (Alabama): The Pittsburgh Directory then—the Board of Publication was what I had in mind.

T. R. WOODFORD (Maryland): Mr. President, I am in sympathy with the motion and yet I think in connection with the publication of our minutes here we might mark out a great deal of the matter, though not all of it, and make a pamphlet which can be sent broadcast from one end of the church to the other throughout our borders. I am sure a great many of us do not read either of the church papers to get information and if these minutes are on sale, I know a very few will get the minutes to read. It seems to me we want, in this campaign of education, to have a pamphlet not too large—something that won't scare a person to read it and something that will get the substantial things before our church people—those who do not read our church papers. I am very sure this is very much needed in Maryland, and therefore, it seems to me, it will be well to include in this motion—a committee would be the proper thing to co-operate with the Secretary and I think the President of the General Conference certainly knows what should go in that pamphlet. My own idea would be that the President and Secretary perhaps would be sufficient on this committee.

Not only get the minutes out—I think the minutes ought to be in full, but in addition to that, a brief pamphlet giving the essential facts we want to get before our people. I would move then to amend.

J. P. MORGAN (Alabama): If the Brother from Maryland wants to do that, I will withdraw the amendment so you may include that within the other. With the consent of the second, I withdraw the amendment and allow the matter to be open for amendment.

T. R. WOODFORD (Maryland): I have no definite plan. My idea is that the President and Secretary is a sufficient committee to edit the minutes of this session, to be published at the expense and responsibility of the Board of Publication, and put on sale by our book

THE PRESIDENT: After you take it from the table and act upon it, it becomes a part of the minutes of this Conference.

DR. LUCAS: I would like to ask if that paper is now before the house at this session?

THE PRESIDENT: Certainly.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: Before I can act intelligently on that paper it must be read. I do not remember its contents but it seems to me it is a discourtesy to this Conference. I would like to have the paper read.

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will read the paper.

THE SECRETARY: This is the paper for which the call has been made. (Reads.)

Whereas, It is questionable whether the General Conference of 1912 properly authorized the Commission on Church Union to call a special session of the General Conference; and,

Whereas, If such authority was properly delegated, the Commission on Church Union has never overtured the Annual Conferences for a special session of the General Conference; and,

Whereas, There was no urgent or immediate necessity for such a call; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that the call was unauthorized and illegal; and, be it further

Resolved, That this body adjourn sine die."

DR. LUCAS: Mr. President, is it without signature?

THE SECRETARY: It is signed by Colonel Barge and Rev. R. S. McGarrity.

DR. LUCAS: I move that that paper be received and ordered printed in the minutes and tabled.

(Seconded.)

Mr. Miller (Muskingum): Does that accomplish what I want? Does that include it in the minutes?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

The motion was put by the President and carried.

THE PRESIDENT: The report of the Committee on the report of the Commission on Church Union is before you in printed form. I have no motion on the adoption of the report.

MR. SAIGEON: I move that the report of the Committee on Basis of Union be received and adopted.

THE PRESIDENT: Before I put that, I should like myself, with the indulgence of the house, to say a few words.

(The President here addressed the Conference, as follows:)

My dear friends and brethren:

From the very beginning of this movement for the proposed union of the Methodist Protestant Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, I have sought, in all humility, to know and to do the Lord's will. If God is for this union, who can be against it? If God is not for this union, who will dare to battle for it? In every step of these progressive negotiations, from the moment when the General Conference, yonder in Baltimore, gave us commandment, on to that last meeting with the commissioners of the United Brethren Church here in Columbus, I have prayed that I might follow, not my own judgment, not the oracles of men, but the leadings of the Holy Spirit, the mind of our blessed Saviour, the will of our Heavenly Father.

Why should we favor this proposed union? There are certain reasons of the Kingdom which the people have adopted for their own.

First of all, the people favor this union because these two denominations are solemnly betrothed to each other; and that betrothal is sealed by a thousand tokens of mutual esteem and confidence. General Conference resolutions, Annual Conference resolutions, congregational resolutions; a thousand tokens, of a covenant which the Lord

and be recorded for future years, and unless he is willing to make an apology, the Conference ought not to expunge it.

MR. MILLER (Muskingum): I am opposed to expunging this from our minutes or stenographic report. Dr. Brown was assured by the President and this Conference that this would appear and we should keep our word with Dr. Brown that this will appear.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the absence of Dr. Brown in any case—I don't think we ought to do it. I think because of that it will be withdrawn. Because of the absence of Dr. Brown the motion will not be put.

DR. LELAND: Do I understand it will be brought up again when Dr. Brown returns? I do not think, Mr. President, that this General Conference is under any obligation to Dr. Brown that this shall be published. The question was raised and I think it was Dr. Lucas who said that of course every action went on the minutes unless the Conference directed it should not be there. If Dr. Brown has gone home and the members of this Conference, thinking over this matter in his absence, come to the conclusion that the paper is not worthy of a place on its minutes, it seems to me we have a perfect right to strike it out and instruct that it be not published. I am persuaded that a paper such as that would be very much better not published in the minutes of this General Conference. but I would like Dr. Brown to be here to hear the discussion, of course.

THE PRESIDENT: It is withdrawn on account of his absence.

DR. PERRY: I was just going to remark, Mr. President, that the paper that Dr. Brown presented was neither weighty or argumentative—I would have been ashamed of it myself—but the inference might go out that we were afraid of it and it might appear a good deal stronger outside than inside. Personally, I do not care very much which way we do. It doesn't hurt our cause either way.

A REPRESENTATIVE: Whether Dr. Brown is personally present, he is constructively absent and I scarcely see why his presence should affect our action. However, I am opposed to it.

THE PRESIDENT: The motion is withdrawn.

DR. HESS: I would like to call attention to one thing before this question is passed. There was some question raised about the resolution which came from Georgia, in the absence of official signatures, was there not? It seems to me that places that paper on the same ground on which Dr. Brown's protest is placed.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I want to move to reconsider the first paper presented by Colonel Barge and tabled by this Conference. I would like to move it be taken from the table for the purpose of being restored to our minutes.

THE PRESIDENT: That was referred to a committee.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: My motion was in reference to the first paper offered by Colonel Barge, closing with the resolution that this Conference adjourn at once.

THE CHAIRMAN: What was your motion? That it be taken from the table and be re-considered for the purpose of having it included in our minutes.

DR. LUCAS: I understood the brother's motion was simply to take it from the table.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, I think I put it that way. I know in my imagination I took it from the table.

The motion was put by the President and carried.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I move this paper be included in the published minutes and be a part of the stenographic record of the proceedings of this Conference.

DR. LUCAS: I want to ask a question? What action was taken on this paper of Colonel Barge?

THE SECRETARY: This paper was tabled and all reference to it expunged. There is no reference to this paper in the minutes.

with like, the union of kind with kind, is the first natural and logical step toward the ultimate union.

Another great reason for this process lies in the difficulty of bringing together the severed branches of the same family. Their kinship, after they are once separated, becomes a barrier rather than a door of union. This is peculiarly true, if the one branch is a banished tribe, sent forth with bitter memories of the old homestead, and living for a whole generation in the storm of controversy which accompanied their going. It is not natural, it is not possible, to lead that banished tribe, into direct union with the mother church. They will not go, simply because you are undertaking to lead them backward rather than forward, and backward face to face with all the battle-monuments of the past. When the Thirteen Colonies were once divided from the mother country, they could never have been led backward, face to face with the Lexington and Bunker Hill, no not by a thousand parliaments! But if you lead them forward, through the ages, along that highway of human progress which prophecies the common fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man, then will they march night and day with the nations toward a final parliament of nations and the universal peace of the world. Even so, our Methodist Protestant Church can never be led backward, face to face with the battle-monuments of Baltimore and Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, and thus into direct union with the mother church of American Methodism; no, not if you should beat time for them a thousand years! But the Methodist Protestant Church will gladly accept that union which begins by blending like with like, liberty with liberty, brotherhood with brotherhood; and then will join hands and hearts for the onward tread toward an all-inclusive United Protestant Church!

You have heard from Oklahoma City, and of the proposition there made looking toward a nation-wide union of American Methodism. The union which we are furthering by our deliberations here today is the straight highway toward every possible union. But this movement, emanating from Oklahoma City, not in motive, but in sure consequence, is part of a general alternative to the movement which our Conferences have adopted.

The alternative to the union for which we have voted is not the continuation of our independent church life, in the purpose of those who most persistently oppose the present movement. Let no one be led to suppose that, if this United Brethren union were not accomplished, we should then go on quietly and progressively in our own work. Such is not the alternative that awaits us. This movement once aside, the movement for Methodist union, and that without any hope of mutual concession, is ripe and ready for immediate substitution in the highways of our Zion by the opponents of this movement.

And if this combination suggested and proclaimed at Oklahoma City were accomplished, on the lines now laid down, what would it signify? Certainly not union! The proposal is that there shall be one national General Conference, with a jurisdiction so flimsy as to fall to pieces at the first practical touch!

The real kernel of the proposition is hid in the suggestion of the "jurisdictional" conferences, of which there are to be three or four, covering the territory of the United States. And these "jurisdictional" conferences are very well named; for they alone would have the jurisdiction, each in its own territory, to the utter exclusion of all the other jurisdictional conferences, except the privilege of singing the same hymns and subscribing to the same general creed. In a word, these jurisdictional conferences would be independent sovereignties, having control of all matters of any direct ecclesiastical importance, and would be just as distinct as if they had separate denominational names; the only difference being that each would be debarred from the territory of every other.

has witnessed between us. What does this mean? The world will ask, and Heaven will ask, saying: "Sons of Otterbein, sons of Wesley, what mean you by these tokens? Are these manifold resolutions only banners of sentiment, to be carried in the parade, and then thrown to the winds? Are these but the flaunting ribbons of an ecclesiastical Vanity Fair? Men and brethren, let us give answer to the earth and answer to the heavens, that we mean what we say; that our Conference covenants are as honest as our personal word in the marketplace. Men and brethren, while we have upon us the burden of the whole world, and before us great cities whose gates must be opened to the conquering Christ, and over us the witnessing heavens that wait for us to do the Lord's will,—shall we in such an hour dispute about names and shadows, like children that quarrel among their toys? God forbid!

The people favor this proposed union because it prophesies, in its very name, a united Protestant Christianity. Some people have asked the particular meaning of the word Protestant in our proposed name. In such great historic relations as this, a name means whatever is put into it by the faith of those who speak it. Why not conclude that in this instance the word Protestant means a protest against the divisions we are trying to heal and a plea for the union which we are trying to consummate?

But if, on the other hand, this word is taken to signify a new awakening of Protestant Christianity to the dangers that threaten the Christian liberties and institutions of America, then I for one will welcome the challenge. Men and brethren, the mission of Protestant Christianity has not yet been fulfilled in the world; no, not by a thousand pilgrimages, not by a thousand battles. The mission of Protestant Christianity will never be fulfilled until every vestige of ecclesiastical tyranny and ecclesiastical error has been forever dethroned. And the conflict is close upon us now: And who knows but that our proposed United Protestant Church is not about to come to the Kingdom for such a time as this? The conflict is coming on; a world-wide conflict. And in that arena of the ages, in that Armageddon of spiritual forces, a divided Protestant Church, a contending Protestant Church, will stand in that crisis, blind and dumb, with a broken sword in her hand and a fool's cap on her brow. But a United Protestant Church shall walk the highways of all coming history, carrying the banners of liberty to every benighted nation and the banners of salvation to a lost world.

The people favor this proposed union because of our natural kinship one with the other. In all the essentials of faith and policy, in all the fundamentals of history and purpose, we are already one.

There are those who tell us that the only natural and logical process of union is that which seeks to bring together, first of all, the different branches of each denominational family; that we should first unite all Methodists into one denominational unit, and likewise all Presbyterians, and all Baptists, all severed families.

But the natural process of union is that which begins not by the blending of name with name, but by the blending of like with like! There are two great reasons, inherent in the heart of things, why this is so. In the first place, denominations grow apart from their names. The historic content of a name does not last through the generations. And different denominations may even reverse in their spiritual progress the first meaning attached to them in the minds of the people. For example, the spiritual unction and the aggressive evangelism which at the first characterized the Methodists of the world, is now happily diffused among all the evangelical denominations of the earth. On the other hand the cold scholasticism which was so long attributed by our fathers to the Presbyterians of their day, has now departed forever from the camp of the Presbyterian Zion, and lingers in these days around many individual Methodist churches. The union of like

Even so, these two kindred peoples, flowing into the one channel which God has prepared for them, shall not alone be able to carry forward the added enterprises of the one and the other. They shall be able to bear greater burdens and to solve greater problems than either of them could undertake alone. They shall be able to launch the larger ships, great missionary fleets, sailing for every clime, and carrying the Bread of Life to the hungry multitudes of every land. (Applause.)

REPRESENTATIVE FROM OHIO: In this discussion, I wish to ask the question whether we are going to have any rules or have any limit on the length of time that members can speak?

THE PRESIDENT: Let the Secretary read the rules. Then we will see whether you want to preserve them or throw them aside. The time limit is ten minutes. Do you want to preserve that or do you want to change it. The rule will be read.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads.)

"No member shall speak more than once on the same question, nor longer than ten minutes, without special leave from the Conference, and he shall confine himself strictly to the subject under discussion, provided, however, that the chairman of a committee and the members presenting an original paper shall be entitled to make a second speech."

DR. LUCAS: I would like to move, Mr. President, that this report be considered item by item.

Motion seconded and on being put by the President was carried.

DR. PERKINS (Pittsburgh): I move the rules governing time be abrogated in this case and every speaker be given all the time he desires.

(Seconded.)

(Cries of dissent.)

THE PRESIDENT: I am afraid that is lost before it is put.

DR. PERKINS (Pittsburgh): Why not?

The motion was put by the President and was lost.

THE PRESIDENT: I am afraid that is not all directed toward the Representative from Pittsburgh. That is a little ambiguous, as if you might have regretted that you did not do that before the last speech.

The first item is before you.

THE PRESIDENT: Do you want each "whereas" as an item?

DR. LUCAS: That is an item.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the first "Whereas" of the report as follows:

"Whereas, Our Commission on Church Union appointed by the General Conference to negotiate a Basis of Union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Methodist Episcopal Church, or the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has met with a Commission from the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and has agreed upon the Basis of Union, which Basis of Union our Commission has reported to this session of the General Conference;"

DR. LUCAS: I move to amend by putting in the words "Our Commission on Church Union appointed by the General Conference, 1912."

MR. STEPHENS: I wish to inquire whether it was in 1908?

DR. LUCAS: No, sir, the Commission appointed in 1912.

DR. REYNOLDS: I think quite a number perhaps have a copy of the General Conference minutes. If it is right, all right, but it would take but a moment to get it.

THE PRESIDENT: I wish to say also that however briefly you speak, come forward, if you will. The stenographers have hard work to catch what you say unless you come forward, and talk very slowly.

DR. LUCAS: The fact, simply stated, is that it was appointed at the session in 1908 and at this session it was re-appointed.

What, then, is the final consequence of this union or federation proposed from Oklahoma City? It would simply give the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, all the Methodist Protestants of the south, with their property, and all the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and their property; while the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, could reciprocate to neither of the other two denominations, because they have practically nothing in the north to offer in exchange.

And the final result to Methodist Protestants, a result neither intended nor foreseen by those great and progressive churches, would be simply this, that those of us in the south would be absorbed in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, while those in the north would be absorbed in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and our identity, with all the principles for which we have contended, would lose even their leavening power in the common mass.

The Basis of Union is fully discussed in the printed story of the negotiations, and I need not dwell upon it here and now. But the reading of the instrument itself, and your examination of the mutual concessions made by the two churches, will certainly convince you that the joint commission has found a true and honest equation, and that concessions are balanced and equalized to a degree seldom attained in the history of church union movements.

The people favor this proposed union because it will greatly multiply the forces and influences of each denomination toward the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God.

I would plead, here and now, for the young men of the Methodist Protestant Church. Men are young at seventy, if they are still looking forward, through the windows of hope. Men are old at twenty, if they have begun to look backward, through the windows of melancholy. But I speak for the young men of our beloved church, for every man young in his spiritual dreams of good for the Kingdom of God. They ask nothing for themselves! They are willing to labor and to die in the field of duty, all unseen. But I speak in behalf of their ideals! They are longing to do the largest things for the Master. They would build for God along the world's highways, and enter in and possess the empire of opportunity which the moral vision of the age has revealed unto them. This union appeals to men of vision! It prophesies to men the lifted cross and the conquering Christ! It prophesies that the brotherhood of the Kingdom may soon be enlarged into the brotherhood of the race, if this spirit of union is permitted to fulfill its destiny.

The people therefore favor this union, because they believe that it will multiply the forces and influences of the kingdom. It will not be as if the three hundred thousand and the two hundred thousand were added the one to the other, but it will be, in many profound ways, as if the three hundred thousand and the two hundred thousand were multiplied the one by the other. When the waters of the Ohio and the Mississippi flow together, forming the one greater river, the result, as a commercial factor, is vastly more than the mere sum of the waters. A thousand little ships yonder on the meeting waters of the Ohio; a thousand little ships yonder on the meeting waters of the Mississippi. But will anybody say that the only result of the confluence of the two rivers is the ability of the great Mississippi to carry all the little vessels of the two uniting rivers? It means vastly more than that! It means that the great Father of Waters, ever widening and deepening in its majestic course to the open sea, can bear upon its bosom, not only all the little ships of all the tributary streams, but also vessels of the largest size, vessels which could never be carried by the parted streams; keels which could not be carried by a thousand streams flowing in separate channels, even though their waters should fret and struggle on for a thousand years; the fleets and navies that have all seas for a highway and all the world for a harbor!

Now, this is the kernel of the matter and I know your hearts are feeling the importance of it and I should like you to show it by saying a word, even if you are all of one mind. The record is to be made here of what you say. I think you ought to say something. There should be a distinct expression from the representatives.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I move we insert the word "and" after the word "Christ" in the third line of this resolution, making that a compound and a double resolution, because there are really two resolutions there unless you join them.

The motion was seconded, was put by the President and carried.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I move we say "That this General Conference"—that the word "General" be inserted before "Conference."

Motion seconded and on being put by the President was carried.

DR. REYNOLDS: May I ask this further question? Is it the understanding now that in adopting this item just before us, which is the gist of the whole matter, that it covers the ground upon the Basis of Union in reference to the report of the Committee on vested interests—the property matter of the churches?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, it covers all the Basis of Union throughout.

DR. REYNOLDS: Would it be out of the way or take too much time for the Report of the Committee on vested interests—these two items might be presented to this Conference, if not the whole report, especially the second item, concerning property titles?

A MEMBER: Does the adoption of this item of this report carry with it the adoption of the report of the Committee on Vested Interests?

THE PRESIDENT: We will have that section of the Basis of Union read, which deals with property titles.

DR. REYNOLDS: You needn't read it just for me.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads.)

"2. Concerning Property Titles: We would encourage the proper transfer of titles to all property to the new organization as soon as may be done, although they need not be disturbed or divested, but may remain as they are. Where charters provide that trustees or directors shall be elected from a certain denomination or conference or in a particular manner, such amendment to the charter may be had as to permit the election of trustees from the united body, or in a manner to suit its convenience. In the case of organizations, which cannot well be continued as separate organizations—such as annual conferences—conveyances should be made to the successors of such organizations before the existing organization is discontinued."

DR. REYNOLDS: I do not wish to take up time, but those of you who were present some years ago, when the Congregational Church, the United Brethren Church and our Church were trying to make a union, the Committee on Vested Interests thought this was the most difficult problem in the whole situation. Whether this is guarded sufficiently, I don't profess to be lawyer enough to know. I think it is one of the technical things that will have to be most carefully guarded in reference to Vested Interests—our property title. We have certain properties that belong to us by bequest and the titles to them would be clouded at once if the terms on which the bequests have been made are violated. Everybody knows that, and this is one of the most vital things concerning this union, as we all know. Now, if this section of this report adequately provides for our various kinds of titles, bequests, etc., why, of course, I have no question to raise. I don't want to raise any question. This may be sufficient. The only thing I wish to do is call special attention to those items so we would see whether it was all sufficient. We have property, for instance, in our Conference that the Annual Conference has no title to at all. A separate organization in the boundaries

THE SECRETARY: If you have the General Conference Journal, turn to page 22—half way down the page: (Reads.)

"The following resolution was offered by T. H. Lewis, of Maryland and adopted:

Resolved, That the Commission on Church Union be continued and that the new Chairman, the President of the General Conference, be authorized to appoint one minister to take the place of Rev. Geo. Shaffer, D. D., displaced by reason of the Chairman's membership in the Pittsburgh Conference, and to appoint one layman to take the place vacated by the death of W. N. Swift.

Resolved, That this Commission be authorized to fill any vacancies in its membership occurring during the interim, provided that the rules of having one member from any one Conference be observed."

(Signed) T. H. LEWIS."

DR. REYNOLDS: I submit this question, that the word "continued" be used—"That the Commission on Church Union be continued." If the Commission was continued it must already have been in existence. It must have been in existence before 1912.

THE SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, I have no desire to take any part in any discussion, but I wish to call attention to the fact that if there was no Commission appointed by the Conference of 1912, you have no Commission.

THE PRESIDENT: I think the Representative from Ohio will not object to the Conference of 1912. The motion is to simply put in the figures "1912."

MR. JOHNSON (Muskingum): Why not use the word "authorized" instead of continued, and that would cover it if appointed?

THE PRESIDENT: If you wish the word "continued" instead of "appointed" it would harmonize with the minutes.

DR. LUCAS: I am not at all persistent about the matter, but I want to get it in. I want it understood that it was the Commission that received its authority from the Conference of 1912. That is all. I will add, and use the word "authorized."

THE PRESIDENT: If there is no objection that will be put in, and the figures "1912."

The motion was put by the President and carried by unanimous vote.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the second "Whereas," as follows:

"Whereas, In the submission of the report on the Basis of Union, we regard the work of our Commission to be complete, in so far as it pertains to the union of the Methodist Protestant Church, with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ;"

A MEMBER: I move its adoption.
(Seconded.)

The motion was put by the President and carried by unanimous vote.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the following:

"Therefore, be it

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby accepts and adopts the Basis of Union agreed upon by our Commission and the said Commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. That we thank the Commission for their painstaking efforts in accomplishing this great work."

MR. MILLER: There should be a semicolon after the word "Christ" in the third line. Otherwise you destroy the meaning of the last sentence.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, or the conjunction "and".

MEMBER FROM WEST VIRGINIA: There is a misunderstanding among some of the brethren as to whether both "whereas's" were adopted.

THE PRESIDENT: They were both adopted.

we are adopting simply says "This Conference hereby accepts and adopts the Basis of Union." It does not say we adopt the Constitution or the rest of this paper; it simply says we adopt this Basis of Union. There is a question in my mind whether that carries with it these other things.

THE PRESIDENT: All of that is the Basis of Union.

MR. SAIGEON: Does the "Basis of Union" include all of this? I will make a motion to adopt this report.

DR. LUCAS: The only trouble about this is the method of printing. "The Basis of Union" is a general title for all that follows. They should have been put in as sub-heads instead of general heads, like over here—"The Declaration of Faith." That should have been put in the same way as "Constitution." It is simply a part of the "Basis of Union."

THE PRESIDENT: Everything after the heading "Basis of Union" is the Basis of Union itself, and should be so understood.

DR. STEPHENS: I simply want to call attention to the fact that while there may be points in the Basis of Union or in the reports of some of the Committees which do not strike us at present as most desirable, nevertheless I think the thing for us to do is to approve this Basis of Union in order that the Joint Conference, when they assemble can then take up all of these questions which we could consume an endless amount of time in discussing, and then we will be able to discuss them. If we should make a single change in this Basis of Union we destroy the whole work this Commission has been working on for years. It will even have to go before our Annual Conferences again and be approved before we can be prepared to enter into a session with the General Conference of the other body. I think the thing for us to do is to approve, in a general way, everything that the Commission has done, and then when the Conference meets all these things will come up and we can then discuss them to our hearts satisfaction—all of these minor points and settle them, and we could not settle them now. We would simply undo everything that has been done. We would simply open up the whole matter and it would have to go back to the Annual Conferences and then come up at some future time.

REV. S. McCLAIN (Eastern Conference): A church on the circuit I am on is deeded like this—deeded to the Trustees of the Methodist Protestant Church, and that they shall have no power to sell, rent, lease or mortgage, and in case the church becomes extinct, it goes into the hands of the Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, but in case the Conference becomes extinct, it will go into the hands of the Methodist Protestant Church forever. We do not know what to do with it.

DR. LUCAS: That is a good place to put it.

MR. McCLAIN (Eastern Conference): It shall remain the property of the Methodist Protestant Church forever. I do not know what to do with it.

MR. MORGAN (Alabama): I do not like to rise so often, but the Constitution, Section 7, will settle the whole thing, if it is adopted. Page 17, at the bottom of the page. (Reads.)

"The right, title, interest and claim of all property, both real and personal, of whatever name or description, hitherto acquired by purchase or otherwise, by any person or persons, for the use and benefit of either of the uniting churches, or that may be secured hereafter, are hereby fully recognized and held to vest in the said United Protestant Church, the same being the legal successor of the denominations composing it. The new organization shall be the legal successor of each of said denominations and is authorized to continue same in force, together with all boards, corporations, societies, associations, institutions, activities and subordinate organizations and auxiliaries, so far and for such time as may be necessary to accom-

of that Conference holds this property. The Annual Conference cannot disturb it and has nothing to do with it, and any action the Annual Conference might take could in no sense touch those vested interests. Other Conferences may have the same thing. The Ohio Annual Conference, for instance, has no control whatever over what we know as the "Preacher's Aid Society Fund." That is held by the Board of Directors, managed by the Board of Directors elected by the Society. Now whether this provides for those instances of certain property; I do not know. I have read it a great many times, and it occurred to me that it did cover the ground.

DR. LUCAS: If this item does not cover the ground, I do not see how one could be drafted which would. "We would encourage the proper transfer of titles to all property to the new organization as soon as may be done, although they need not be disturbed or divested, but may remain as they are." Provided necessity requires, they remain as they are; transferred if it can be done. If it cannot be done, they remain as they are. Could any words be written that would better cover the situation? "Where charters provide that trustees or directors shall be elected from a certain denomination or conference or in a particular manner"—as the charter Dr. Reynolds speaks of—"such amendment to the charter may be made"—amendment to the charter can be made by the body itself if it feels the necessity—so as to permit the election of Trustees from the annual body, and yet it does not have to be changed. I will grant that a legal mind wrote that article. It seems to me this is as carefully written as it could be. "In the case of organizations which cannot well be continued as separate organizations—such as annual conferences—conveyances should be made to the successors of such organizations before the existing organization is discontinued."—The local organization, should be careful to see that all titles are properly transferred.

MR. PETERSON (Iowa): I was going to say for the benefit of Brother Reynolds and others, we had two attorneys on this Committee on Vested Interests and a great many interests like Brother Reynold's were considered, and these attorneys, (and other advice was also secured) and the committee thought they had thoroughly covered all the points that were made and all feel pretty safe on this item concerning property titles.

THE PRESIDENT: I will add a word to what Brother Peterson has said. A particular conference fund was under consideration; explanation was given that in such a case as that the new organization would administer the fund for the benefit of those for whom it was given under the old organization. They said they never thought of anything else. That was their explanation.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM ALABAMA: I wish to inquire if the last paragraph is subject to modification? "In the case of organizations which cannot well be continued as separate organizations—such as annual conferences"—do I understand that this means that the Annual Conference has property titles in itself?

THE PRESIDENT: I haven't that before me. Yes, if organized.

DR. LUCAS: Would that not mean that in case a Conference is incorporated and holds certain property as a corporation, that these matters should be transferred before the corporation is dissolved? That is all. Some Conferences have special property. That does not mean, of course, that the properties of the congregations belonging to that Conference, belong to that Conference as a body. To be sure all of these properties belong to the denomination as a whole.

THE PRESIDENT: The meaning is simply this—If any Annual Conference has any special property interests, they should be transferred before the discontinuance of the organization.

DR. LELAND: The question in my mind is the fact that in this report you have several departments, "The Basis of Union," "The Constitution" and the reports of these committees. This resolution

Louisiana Conference are going to stand up for what we believe to be our rights in this matter and we believe we are following in the footsteps of Wesley and we will never yield it. We have no unkind words for anyone that wants to go—that looks at this matter differently. We have nothing unkind to say about you, and if you do go, we bid you God's speed, but we ask you, brethren and Mr. President, and if you don't give us what we ask for, we ask you to leave us alone and let us do what we want to do. As to the church property, I am not worried about that. The fact is I don't think you would want our kind of property very much. If you did want it, God wouldn't let you take it away from us, and if you did succeed in getting it, we would get some more. We are going to remain where we are, and if you give us this 10th Article, we will be with you heart and soul.

DR. STEPHENS (Oklahoma): I just wanted to say, as Chairman of the Committee, that the Committee heard Brother Stewart's memorial as brought from the Louisiana Conference, and it took the view that this body is not the body to whom that memorial should be addressed. It should be addressed to the General Conference that will have the framing and the revision of the Basis of Union to work upon, and therefore, the Committee incorporated in their action, in the next paragraph, I believe, that the memorials from Annual Conferences and any memorials or resolutions be referred to the Joint Conference, if it should occur, of the General Conferences of the two bodies, for their consideration. That is all we could do. We have accepted the memorial that the Louisiana Conference has presented and we now pass it on to the body which alone can consider and act upon it.

MR. MOUSER (Louisiana): In our deliberations in the Louisiana Conference we did not know there would be a General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church called separate from the Joint Conference with the United Brethren Church in Christ. This was intended for the joint session. We understood that the next session would be the joint session, but the reason Brother Stewart and I voted as we did, we had to keep from obligating ourselves to the Basis of Union, so we would be loose and free, if we come to the next called Conference to vote as we have voted, that unless this 10th Article of Faith was written into the new Articles of Faith we would not accept it. I make this explanation so you will not think that we thought this could be adjusted in this Conference. We voted as we did so we could feel ourselves free to vote as we thought we should in the next Conference.

THE PRESIDENT: I am glad the Brethren from Louisiana have expressed themselves in such a fine spirit. I want to say I was present at the Louisiana Conference and told them that was the way to do for everything they desired; and promised them they would have an honored and kindly hearing and you have given them that.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the following item of the report:

"Resolved, Second: That we create a special commission of fifteen members, consisting of seven laymen and seven ministers and the President of this General Conference as ex-officio chairman, whose duty it shall be to meet at the earliest possible date, with the Commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ to consider the further details in the process of union. That all memorials from Annual Conferences to this General Conference bearing upon the subject of union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ be referred to this Joint Commission to be considered by it."

THE PRESIDENT: What is your pleasure?

A REPRESENTATIVE: I move its adoption.

MR. WOODFORD (Maryland): I just want to ask if that is correct? I had an impression that these memorials were to go to

plish their purpose, to discharge their obligations, to execute their trusts, to preserve their property rights, bequests, legacies and other interests, and to conserve the efforts of said denomination."

(Question called for.)

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of the motion to adopt this item, will signify by saying "aye." A standing vote is asked for.

(Rise.)

Everybody is up, I believe, in the Conference.

THE PRESIDENT: Anyone opposed.

(Two opposed.)

Carried by vote of 89 for adoption, two against adoption.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM LOUISIANA: We vote against this resolution and I desire to say to this Conference we came here instructed and we could not support this resolution until matters were different from what they are, and we are bound to be true to the people who sent us here and do what they ask us to do, and we desire, Mr. President, to have our votes recorded on the minutes as voting against this. The Committee was kind to me and I thank them for it. They also asked me to serve on this Commission, but I could not conscientiously do so, Mr. President, and take the step that I am taking. I could not afford to act as one of the Commissioners and vote against this proposition, so, therefore, I declined it, and our constituents are standing aloof until such time as what they ask for is granted at that time they will be glad to join forces.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: If it is in order I would like to have the Representative from Louisiana state the grounds on which his Annual Conference makes this request and gives this instruction to their delegation.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM LOUISIANA: Here is the reason. (Presents a memorial from Louisiana Conference.)

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: Would it be in order, for the sake of general information, for us to know what Section 10 of the Discipline is?

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will read it.

THE SECRETARY: (The Secretary reads Section 10, page 39, of the Discipline.)

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will read from the Basis of Union on the same point.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads) Page 16, Sec. 6:

"We believe that Jesus Christ, having risen from the dead and ascended into heaven, carries forward His work of saving men by sending the Holy Spirit to convict them of sin and to lead them to repentance and faith; that those who, through renewing grace turn to righteousness and trust in Jesus Christ, continue to grow in sanctified character through fellowship with Christ, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and obedience to the truth; that a holy life is the fruit and evidence of saving faith."

A. W. STEWART (Louisiana): I have no desire to go into a discussion of our Articles of Faith, you all know that, but we are not satisfied in Louisiana, with this article you have in the new Constitution—in the proposed Constitution for the new church. We know the 10th Article. I was surprised at some of the brethren asking what it was. That is what we live on in Louisiana and we are not satisfied to give it up. Our Conference will never go into the new church without this is adopted. If it is adopted, I believe that the body will go as a whole. There may be a few that will be a little slow about going, but I believe they will go, but we will never go without this article is adopted.

Now, Mr. President, I know that the most of you feel differently than we do in Louisiana, but you have got to love us. You can't go to heaven until you do love us. I know we differ, but we differ with love and differ in love. I know the State of Louisiana and the

the different churches and they have the expression of that Committee, that ought to settle that question so far as our relation to the other church is concerned. If they have to say to the other church "We have some questions we can't agree on and we are going to send them back to our people," and we come back and say, "We have not struck a Basis of Union yet," you are going to continue this uncertainty, but if that Joint Commission can decide—if there is a vital point that the Commission can't agree on they can refer it to the General Conference, and it would be their duty to do so, and say, "Here is a point that the Commission doesn't agree upon." Suppose the Commission doesn't do it, why our brethren in their respective capacities can come up, like now, and say, "We had it in; we offered it, and we want you to consider it." I don't think it ought to be laid down that these inferences throw doubt on the question of union. Refer all to the Joint Commission and if they are not wise enough to deal with it, take it up with the next General Conference.

DR. LUCAS: I fear we are somewhat confused as to the prerogative of the Commissioners which shall meet. The United Brethren Church cannot consider any detail whatever—any further details until after their church acts. The United Brethren Church has, in General Conference, adopted the report, as they call it and we have called it. That is the Basis of Union we are acting upon today, and they have adopted that, and have, by official action sent that action down to their churches. It has not as yet been considered by the people of the churches, but it must be just as at first adopted by it. Not a thing can be put into this before the United Brethren Church acts—not a thing. All they can do is confer about the best methods of procedure and get mutual help from one another, but they cannot do one thing with this Basis of Union.

Now, let it also be understood that when the General Conference of the United Brethren Church adopted this Basis of Union, they adopted it subject to amendment by the General Conference—of course, the Joint General Conference. You will find it there in the minutes. We are doing the same thing. Now we can adopt this and we can recommend an amendment with the adoption and it does not mean that amendment will become a law, but it will simply be up to the Joint General Conference, just as their amendments will, and be considered. The proper place for these memorials is in the hands of the Commission to be presented at the proper time to the General Conference. I am in sympathy with Mr. Woodford's resolution as it stands, myself, that these memorials are to be presented to the Commission, and the Commission can do anything it wants to with them. It can table them if it wants to—that is, it has the power. I am in sympathy with it if the amendment is made so they shall be presented to them and they may come up with other matters at the proper time.

A REPRESENTATIVE: If the United Brethren do not have in view possible amendments which it thinks best to submit to their people, what is the use of an early meeting of our Commission with their Commission?

DR. LUCAS: Personally, I don't think there is any use, but they have asked for it. I don't know what is the need myself of their meeting. They may desire simply to confer about the methods of presenting it to their people.

MR. WOODFORD: May I not remind the Conference of the campaign of Education that is anticipated? I think that is the primary object of this meeting.

DR. LUCAS: I presume that is it.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MICHIGAN: It seems to me we ought to adopt this just as it is, without amendment. In the first place, it expresses that which I think to be the proper thing. Again, if we get to putting in a lot of amendments and changes, it will create a spirit of uncertainty and a spirit of doubt on the part of the United

the next session of our General Conference. It does not say so in this Article—in this resolution, but says here to “be referred to this Joint Commission to be considered by it.”

DR. BROOMFIELD (Secretary of the Committee): It would go to the next General Conference as soon as it can, with the authority of the Joint Commission.

T. R. WOODFORD (Maryland): The understanding is that it would go to the joint meeting of the Commissioners with the statement that it be passed on up to the special session. I believe it would be well to have that in it. I, therefore, move to amend by adding those words “to be passed on to the special session.”

SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE: That is, if they incorporate them in the report. Don't understand that this is not to be brought up at the joint session of the Commission of the two churches. The Joint Commission will take all these memorials and those they see fit they will incorporate, but it is to pass on them first.

T. R. WOODFORD (Maryland): It seems to me when this first session of the Commissioners is held in August that would hardly be the time for them to consider these memorials, because that would be prior to the referendum taken by the United Brethren Church. It seems to me it would hardly be a wise plan to have these memorials just at that time. They could be presented at a later meeting, to go with the report that the Commission will finally make to our special session. The inference from this is that the memorials will be presented at the meeting in August.

SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE: If that Joint Commission is simply to pass them on to the General Conference, why couldn't this session pass on them now?

MR. WOODFORD (Maryland): I think the Joint Commission will want to take them into consideration and put their judgment in the report, in view of the memorials presented, but I do not think it wise to have them presented at this first meeting. I think we ought to get that straightened out. “That all memorials from Annual Conferences to this General Conference bearing upon the subject of union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ be referred to this Joint Commission to be considered by it.”

A REPRESENTATIVE: It seems to me that the object of the committee was that it was to be considered by it and be referred to the General Conference.

MR. WOODFORD: That is my idea that it be referred to the next session of the General Conference.

(Seconded.)

DR. PERRY: I don't like the phraseology of that.

THE PRESIDENT: That refers to a possibility.

MR. PICKENS (North Carolina): It seems to me that would not be wise to do that. If this Joint Conference can strike a unit and can agree on these points, that answers the question as far as that part of it is concerned, and it seems to me if we are going to carry these things up to the General Conference regardless of any recommendations by our Joint Commission, we propose to fight them out regardless of what is agreed by the other church. For instance, this comes up and these brethren say, “We don't want that,” and suppose our Commission look at it in the same light and we agree on that, but a number of things remain that this Commission shall refer to the next session of the General Conference to be threshed out on the floor of the General Conference and go down to the other church but not this matter that has been settled. It is unfair. It is tying the hands of this Commission by saying that unless you endorse these things that come up from other Conferences, we will take them up ourselves. This Commission is large enough and with enough wisdom that when they consider all these things that are coming up from

wise to carry it up to the Conference, and then, as suggested by Dr. Lucas, any other Conferences can bring in memorials to the Joint Commission.

DR. PERRY: I still think my phraseology is best, because you do not consider the fact that this Joint Commission is not a creature of this General Conference, and therefore I use those qualifying words, that we might be courteous to our brethren of the other church. "With the possible view" would mean if they recommended it. You will never get it any better.

MR. PICKENS: I don't see why you want to put this in here when that Conference has jurisdiction over these memorials just as much as this one. If we didn't take this action possibly that Joint Commission would have jurisdiction to consider them. They have the right, without this amendment, to say nothing about them, but this gives the Joint Commission to understand we want them to be considered. The Special Session of the General Conference can do so, if they want to take any action. I do not see any use in giving the inference to the other church that we are going to honor all these things, and I don't think those things ought to come up in the report of the Joint Commission unless they are adopted.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM WEST VIRGINIA: The idea as suggested at the first meeting of the committee was that this particular little clause we are inserting in here was not to debar the Joint Commission of the General Conference of any of its rights, but simply a special clause to confer upon this Joint Commission certain powers, which if it already had, would make it clear so there would be no mistake in the Union of the bodies. I personally do not see that the addition or omission of these words make any difference in the meaning of the paper, but they do make clear the action of this body in case they include them.

THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE: The amendment is, to add the following words: "to be considered by it and passed on to the joint session of the General Conference."

DR. LUCAS: Now I have a motion. I thought my brother would accept that without a motion to amend, but I now move to amend by putting in the words "with recommendations."

REPRESENTATIVE FROM INDIANA: I second that.

DR. WOODFORD: I accept that.

THE SECRETARY: (Reads.) "be referred to this Joint Commission to be passed on to the joint session of the General Conference with recommendations."

DR. LUCAS: Better add the word "and"—"and passed on."

A REPRESENTATIVE: Is not the word "or" better.

DR. LINDER (Iowa): It says, "be referred to this Joint Commission" and to be considered. Are all these to be considered by the Methodist Protestant Church and United Brethren and no matters to be referred to our own Commission first? Then if there is anything they deem advisable to refer to the Joint Commission, give them power. This says, "referred to the Joint Commission," as though it would have to be referred to the Joint Commission. There might be things that our Commission would feel it would not be best to refer to the Joint Commission.

THE PRESIDENT: Do you move to amend?

DR. LUCAS: It will be our Commission that has these memorials in its possession. These memorials must ultimately come to that Joint Conference, and the idea here is simply to get the matter before the whole Commission so they will have something tangible to present to the General Conference, but, of course, our body takes it and they have to consider it.

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of the motion signify by saying "aye".

The motion carried.

Brethren Church whether we really adopted it, and result in innumerable things coming up that will ultimately defeat the union. As they have adopted this, I think we ought to adopt it and refer all other changes to the meeting of the Joint General Conference and let them pass upon them after they come into their hands. I mean by that, I think the thing we want to do is adopt this report; that we ought to adopt it just as it is, and any petition like this should be left to the best judgment of the Joint Commission and with their judgment presented to the Joint General Conference for adjustment, without any amendment.

DR. PERRY: The discussion is just now on the Second Resolution, is it not, or did Mr. Woodford make an amendment?

THE PRESIDENT: He added the clause "to be referred to the joint session of the General Conference."

DR. PERRY: Was that supported. If it has not been supported, I would like to suggest this phraseology. I believe it covers it all. "That all memorials from Annual Conferences to this General Conference bearing upon the subject of union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ be referred to this Joint Commission to be considered by it, with a possible view of referring it to the Joint Conference." I would not like to say it ought to be referred to the Joint Conference, because on the other hand, there would be a lot of things I would like to leave with them with the qualifying words "with the possible view."

MR. WOODFORD: It seems to me my thought is just about the same as Dr. Perry's. I think that is all right to give them to understand that we leave it to their judgment. I think that meets the situation all right.

Are you ready for the question?

DR. LUCAS: Not quite, if you please: It strikes me that any memorial, however trivial, ought to be heard by the General Conference. I would like to have these words inserted. I will not make an amendment—"after the matter be considered by it and passed on to the proposed joint session of the General Conference, with recommendation from the Commission." I think we want our Commission to put its stamp on the papers as they pass through.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I think this is about the meaning of it now—who shall make a recommendation to the General Conference. I think that is the idea and is what we want.

THE PRESIDENT: I think a motion was made and seconded for certain phraseology.

MR. WOODFORD: I would like to have the Secretary read the original reading.

THE SECRETARY: The amendment proposed was "to be passed on to the General Conference."

DR. LUCAS: I want to know if he still not accept this phraseology? "With recommendation to the next General Conference."

DR. BROOMFIELD (Secretary of the Committee): Dr. Lucas's phraseology takes in the whole "and passed on by them to the General Conference, with recommendations."

THE PRESIDENT: Do you accept this?

REPRESENTATIVE FROM INDIANA: Do you have this Joint Commission report to the General Conference?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM INDIANA: Will it report the same as any other committee?

THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

A REPRESENTATIVE: Then if they have to report to this Conference, why are they to be referred to this Commission, if they have not the right to do what they think is best with them. I cannot see why any change should be made, unless the latter part should be re-drafted. It is to be considered by them and if they think it

DR. REYNOLDS: I accept the words that "any and all memorials from Annual Conferences" shall be referred.

The motion was seconded and on being put by the President was carried.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the item as amended.

MR. JOHNSON (Muskingum): It seems to me as the Secretary has just read this resolution as amended, in order to make it clear, the word "shall" should be inserted in the next to the last line, and the word "that" at the beginning of the fourth line from the last.

THE PRESIDENT: That will be done by consent.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM NORTH ILLINOIS: I have a question. Does not that cut out any memorials that may arise in the Conference—it says "to this General Conference."

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of the item as a whole will signify it by saying "aye".

The motion on the adoption of the item carried.

The Secretary of the Committee then read the following item:

"Resolved, Third: That when the membership of the Church of The United Brethren in Christ shall have ratified the Basis of Union herein adopted, the President of this General Conference is authorized to confer with the proper authorities of the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ as to time and place of meeting and when agreed upon the President is hereby authorized to call this General Conference in session at the time and place arranged and agreed upon for a meeting of the General Conference of the United Brethren in Christ and that we request that the same be not earlier than December 1st, 1914, nor later than May 31, 1915, and that when this Conference adjourns it adjourns to reconvene at the call of the President."

THE PRESIDENT: What is your pleasure?

MR. PICKENS (North Carolina): An amendment I want to suggest—I don't know whether it is really important but it might be. That is, after the word "President" in the seventh line, insert "or upon his failure to do so, this Special Commission is hereby authorized." The reason why I say that is in case of a contingency that might arise. I hope anything like that won't happen, but in case the President should die.

(Seconded.)

On being put by the President the motion carried.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: Is that vote carried? It was such a weak vote and the men back of me didn't know what we were voting on.

THE PRESIDENT: Nobody votes against it.

(Amendment read.)

THE PRESIDENT: That is if the President fails to call the General Conference for any reason, then the Commission has the power to call. The phraseology will be given in the amendment.

MR. MORGAN (Alabama): Mr. President, I wish to make an amendment by striking out one word occurring in two places and inserting another word where this has been stricken out. It is the word "authorized". Let the word "authorized" be stricken out and insert the word "required". That is in the fourth line and in the seventh line "is hereby required".

(Seconded.)

MR. WOODFORD: I would not like to support that. We must consider the feelings of the other church and the fact that we are not alone. I think the words "we request that the same be not earlier" is better.

THE PRESIDENT: Will the Representative from Alabama accept the word "directed" instead of "required"?

DR. MORGAN (Alabama): Let it stand "required" in the fourth and make it "directed" in the seventh.

MR. JOHNSON (Muskingum): What have we just voted on? Is not this an amendment to the motion?

THE PRESIDENT: No, that was accepted.

MR. JOHNSON: I move to amend this resolution by inserting the word "and" after the word "union" in the sixth line, since there are two resolution unless we couple them with the word "and".

Motion seconded and carried.

THE PRESIDENT: Are you ready for the next item?

MR. WOODFORD: I just want to ask for information. Is it considered this properly calls for any memorials that the Annual Conferences may later want to present?

THE PRESIDENT: I think it is perfectly understood. That is the intent, certainly.

DR. REYNOLDS: Why couldn't we say that all memorials from Annual Conferences to this General Conference and all other memorials bearing on the subject of Union?

(Seconded.)

DR. LUCAS: That is a most dangerous thing. You may get any number of memorials from other sources. You may get one from the Preachers' Aid Society of Pittsburgh and other Conferences and from individuals. We don't want to think of that. I don't think we want any memorials excepting they come from Annual Conferences and I believe every memorial coming from Annual Conferences should be there.

DR. REYNOLDS: Any memorials that Annual Conferences may make?

DR. LUCAS: All from Annual Conferences.

THE PRESIDENT: There is a motion before the house that has been seconded. The motion is by the Representative from Ohio to put "all other Annual Conference Memorials."

DR. KLEIN (Maryland): The Representative from Ohio seems to intimate in his suggestion that this General Conference means just we who are sitting here. This General Conference will exist until 1916.

THE PRESIDENT: I suppose he had in mind this special session.

DR. REYNOLDS: "That any and all memorials from Annual Conferences," etc.

DR. PERRY: Why couldn't we just say "any and all memorials from Annual Conferences bearing upon the subject of Union be referred to the General Conference"?

A REPRESENTATIVE: Only Annual Conferences acting within their right can memorialize anything.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM N. ILLINOIS: "From Annual Conferences bearing upon the subject of Union."

THE PRESIDENT: I think the mover will accept that.

(Calls for the question.)

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of the amendment to the motion will say "aye".

SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE: I don't see why you want to eliminate "to this General Conference," because that is what it means. I don't see why you want to make it so indefinite as that.

(Question called for.)

THE PRESIDENT: The question is on the amendment to the amendment "that all memorials from Annual Conferences bearing on the subject of Union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ be referred to the Joint Commission," and then the language following.

MR. WOODFORD: Let us understand it in a clear light? You are simply striking out the words "to this General Conference"?

The motion was put by the President and was lost.

THE PRESIDENT: The amendment of the Representative from Ohio is now before you.

The motion was put by the President and carried unanimously.

MR. PICKENS: It has been suggested that this same amendment that was put in the seventh line—"or upon his failure to do so, this special Commission is authorized to do so"—should follow the last word.

THE PRESIDENT: By consent the word "directed" was substituted for "authorized", as proposed by Mr. Pickens.

The Secretary of the Committee then reads the following item of the Report:

Resolved, Fourth: That the following persons shall compose the Special Commission:

Ministerial.

Dr. L. E. Davis, Pennsylvania
Dr. C. D. Sinkinson, New Jersey
Dr. U. W. Morrison, W. Virginia
Dr. T. L. Garrison, Texas
Dr. W. H. Bentley, New York
Dr. C. E. Sheppard, Ohio
Dr. J. S. Bowers, Maryland
Dr. D. S. Stephens, Kansas

Laymen.

R. T. Pickens, North Carolina
J. F. Howe, Missouri
J. E. Peterson, Iowa
Horace Link, North Illinois
Dr. Simmons, Arkansas
A. T. Merriman, Indiana
Ely D. Miller, Michigan

MR. WOODFORD: I do not see anything in case there should be any vacancies in this Special Commission. It seems to me that is important. Life is uncertain. I move that some such thing be included as "this Commission is authorized to fill any vacancies that occur."

(Seconded.)

The motion was put by the President and carried.

SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE: I move you that the report of the Committee be adopted as a whole.

(Second.) (A rising vote was called for.)

THE PRESIDENT: We will have a rising vote.

A rising vote was taken, 89 voting in favor and none opposed. Two representatives from Louisiana came in later and asked to have their votes recorded in the negative.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON CHURCH UNION AS ADOPTED:

Columbus, Ohio, July 16, 1914.

Your Committee appointed to consider the report of our Commission on Union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, report as follows:

Whereas, Our Commission on Church Union authorized by this General Conference in session in 1912 to negotiate a Basis of Union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the Methodist Episcopal Church or the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has met with a Commission from the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and has agreed upon a Basis of Union, which Basis of Union our Commission has reported to this session of the General Conference; and,

Whereas, In the submission of the report on the Basis of Union, we regard the work of our Commission to be complete, in so far as it pertains to the union of the Methodist Protestant Church, with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby accepts and adopts the Basis of Union agreed upon by our Commission and the said Commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; and that we thank the Commission for their painstaking efforts in accomplishing this great work.

Resolved, Second: That we create a special commission of fifteen

A REPRESENTATIVE: I notice in about the middle, you say, "as to time and place of meeting"; what meeting?

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: I move we insert the words "of the joint meeting".

MR. PICKENS: The time and place for holding the General Conference—they are to pass upon the joint meeting. Does not that explain what the meaning is? There is no punctuation in there—when the meeting is agreed upon—at the time and place agreed upon for a meeting of the General Conference. That is what it means, isn't it?

DR. LUCAS: Mr. President, under this resolution who is to decide where the time and place shall be?

THE PRESIDENT: By mutual agreement as to time and place—mutual agreement between the President and the other Commission.

DR. LUCAS: The whole matter is referred to the President. I don't know whether that is what the General Conference wishes to do? If it is, I am in perfect accord with it, but it seems to me this puts a duty in the hands of the President and ties his hands in some particulars. Do we want to say to the United Brethren Church that they must get ready for a consideration of this matter sometime between December 1st, 1914, and May 31, 1915?

THE PRESIDENT: That is a request only.

DR. LUCAS: I know it is a request, but if I were on that Commission, it would have the appearance of an ultimatum, and if you can't get ready by that time, we don't want you—that is just an inference. I know we don't mean that, therefore, I hope we might say so.

DR. PERRY: I notice the Doctor's motion is not supported. I wonder if it would not accomplish the same thing to substitute the word "suggest" instead of "request". I make a motion that the word "suggest" be substituted.

(Seconded.)

MR. PICKENS: There was a discussion awhile ago about the meeting—in the next to the last line, after "1915", I would insert "to which session of this Conference this Special Commission shall make its report." I offer that as an amendment.

(Seconded.)

THE PRESIDENT: Please state that again—speaking about the calling of this General Conference in special session between the dates December 1st, 1914, and May 31, 1915.

MR. PICKENS: "To which special session of this Conference this Special Commission shall make its report."

DR. REYNOLDS: I observed that in the remarks made by the representative from Pittsburgh, that he stated, if I followed him, that the General Conference of the United Brethren has adopted this Basis of Union with the provision for an amendment. In our action in adopting this, we say, "This Conference hereby accepts and adopts", nothing is said whatever about amendment.

THE SECRETARY: Mr. Chairman, may I read from the Basis of Union, page 18, Section 8. (Reads.)

"Amendments to the foregoing Constitution and Confession of Faith may be proposed by any General Conference, two-thirds of its members agreeing thereto, and said amendments shall be submitted to the several Annual Conferences of the Church for ratification, a majority vote of two-thirds of the Conferences voting in favor thereof being necessary to adoption."

The provision for amendment is in the Basis of Union itself.

DR. LUCAS: That is after we are together. I can't find it quickly, but I would like to find the action of the General Conference of the United Brethren Church.

The motion was put by the President and the same carried.

DR. STEPHENS (Oklahoma): I move the adoption of the item as amended.

(Seconded.)

proposed name of the new church, adding the phrase "composed of The Methodist Protestant Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; and,

Also to inquire whether an arrangement cannot be agreed upon whereby the several Annual Conferences may preserve their present autonomy as related to other Conferences, changes of boundaries and the merging of one into the other being left temporarily to their own mutual agreement."

DR. LUCAS: Is that paper before us? I move that it be considered seriatim.

(Seconded.)

The motion was put by the President and was carried.

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will read the first item.

(Reads first paragraph of above resolution.)

THE PRESIDENT: Has it been moved and seconded that this item be adopted?

DR. REYNOLDS (Ohio): I move we just let that item alone and pay no attention to it. If they wish to take up the matter, all right, but I think the Commission should be entirely free in the matter and undirected. I think the more we undertake to go into details the more improbable we will make a success.

MR. WOODFORD: I don't see how you are going to make any trouble when you simply raise a question. I think it would be a very helpful thing to have this thing put just that way.

DR. LUCAS: As I understand, in the consideration of this item by your Commission, it may be a difference of several days in their business transactions. It brings up a question which, I think, cannot possibly be decided without consideration friction, and I cannot see anything that can possibly be gained by it. The word "Methodist" is introduced again in such a manner, and there are those that objected to its elimination. That question was raised in an article which was published about this. I made the statement that the word "Methodist" was there, but the brethren said it was not—that that meant nothing. I think it is a mistake to bring up a matter that has been talked about and quarreled about—for that is the fact—and which may result in and produce friction that may destroy our efforts and the prospect of this union.

MR. WOODFORD: I would be the last man on earth to say anything to impede the progress of this Union, as you know, and as a member of the Committee I have nothing to say. I will not support the motion.

DR. REYNOLDS (Ohio): May I be permitted to ask a question? Did not the United Brethren Church adopt this Basis of Union without these things in it?

DR. LUCAS: Might I make a motion of reference which I think will cover the whole thing? I move this item be referred to our Special Commission. I move it be referred.

(Seconded.)

(First item of resolution read.)

DR. REYNOLDS: I move the matter be laid on the table.

(Seconded.)

The motion to lay on the table was put by the President and was lost.

The President then put the motion that the item be referred to the Special Commission, and it was carried.

DR. PERRY: (Reads second item of resolution.)

MR. WOODFORD: I move it be referred to the same Special Commission.

DR. LUCAS: I am opposed to it if the Commission thinks of considering that favorably. That is not a merger, that is a federation. If you are going to have an organic union, let us have it. That is purely and simply a federation and you have to wait until all the

members, consisting of seven laymen and seven ministers and the President of this General Conference as ex-officio Chairman, whose duty it shall be to meet at the earliest possible date with the Commission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ to consider the further details in the process of union. And that any and all memorials from Annual Conferences to this General Conference bearing upon the subject of union with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ shall be referred to this Joint Commission to be considered by it, and shall be passed on to the Joint Session of the General Conferences, with recommendations.

Resolved, Third: That when the membership of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ shall have ratified the Basis of Union herein adopted, the President of the General Conference is directed to confer with the proper authorities of the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ as to time and place for a joint meeting. And when agreed upon, the President, or, upon his failure to do so, the Special Commission, is hereby directed to call this General Conference in session at the time and place arranged and agreed upon for a meeting with the General Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. And further to the end that there shall neither be undue haste in this movement, nor unnecessary delay, we suggest that the same be not earlier than December 1st, 1914, nor later than May 31st, 1915, to which session this special commission will make its report.

It is also provided, That when this Conference adjourns it shall adjourn to reconvene at the call of the President, or Special Commission as provided in this resolution.

Resolved, Fourth: That the following persons shall compose the Special Commission:

Ministers.

Dr. L. E. Davis, Pennsylvania
 Dr. C. D. Sinkinson, New Jersey
 Dr. U. W. Morrison, W. Virginia
 Dr. T. L. Garrison, Texas
 Dr. W. H. Bently, New York
 Dr. C. E. Sheppard, Ohio
 Dr. D. S. Stephens, Kansas
 Dr. J. S. Bowers, Maryland

Laymen.

R. T. Pickens, North Carolina
 J. F. Howe, Missouri
 J. E. Peterson, Iowa
 Horace Link, Illinois
 Dr. Simmons, Arkansas
 A. T. Merriman, Indiana
 Ely D. Miller, Michigan

Respectfully submitted,

F. A. PERRY, Michigan
 A. J. CHRISTY, North Illinois
 C. S. JOHNSON, Muskingum
 T. R. WOODFORD, Maryland
 R. T. PICKENS, North Carolina
 J. M. STEPHENSON, Arkansas
 F. W. VARNEY, Eastern
 B. S. BILLINGS, South Illinois
 A. L. POUNDSTONE, Indiana
 A. D. WILLIAMS, W. Virginia
 D. S. STEPHENS, Oklahoma

J. C. BROOMFIELD, Pittsburgh
 C. R. GREEN, North Missouri
 A. H. LINDER, Iowa
 A. W. STEWART, Louisiana
 T. C. CASADAY, Alabama
 I. A. BRICE, Onondaga
 A. L. COOK, Kansas
 A. O. HORNEY, Ohio
 T. L. GARRISON, Texas

Committee.

DR. PERRY: Mr. Chairman, I have here a resolution that was at first embodied in the report of this Committee, but it was afterwards decided to offer it in a separate resolution—may I present this? I was going to say that this Committee at first had this embodied in the report and afterwards requested that it be brought in as a supplementary resolution. I will read it.

(Reads.)

"We authorize our Commission, in joint session with the Commission of the United Brethren Church, to raise the inquiry whether it would not be better to restore the sub-title as at first inserted in the

Pittsburgh is unduly frightened. The very fact that we are entering into a Union carries with it the fact that we are a Union and not a federation, and in order that that union may be perfectly consummated we are making this provision covering the union. It is a salutary measure—it certainly is a salutary measure and not a pugnacious one. It will have that effect. I think that the article should be received and should be referred to this Special Commission for their consideration. We aren't going to suffer one bit.

REV. F. C. KLEIN (Maryland): I believe this is a good thing and I believe we ought to support this recommendation to the Commission. I believe it would be a good thing, whether it is ever carried out or not, for our Conferences to know there is a disposition in our minds along this line.

DR. STRICKLER (Kansas): I think we can all recognize the good intent of a motion of this kind and how it might affect some Conferences in our own church, but we must remember if we carry out such a plan that it becomes universal, and we have thrown down the bars in that respect in both denominations.

DR. HESS: I would like to know where I am before I vote. Does this amount to an instruction to the Commission?

THE PRESIDENT: Raises the question whether.

DR. HESS: Then there would be no instruction.

(Item read.)

DR. HESS: Am I right when I put the interpretation of "instruction" on it?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I do not think so. Just "whether".

DR. LUCAS: They are instructed to inquire, aren't they?

DR. HESS: Is that the purpose of this body?

THE PRESIDENT: We just referred another item to that Commission.

DR. REYNOLDS: Here is the autonomy question again—the very effective foe to organic union. The thing that voted down the union before. Autonomy means do as you have done, do as you please. That means the same thing. It means to devitalize this matter of union and keep up the possibility of separate individual organizations, managing their own affairs as they see fit. Of course, if these brethren realize that certain conditions prevail, these conditions can be provided for in the general handling of things, instead of opening up this autonomy business and calling attention to the fact that this General Conference proposed to refer the matter to the General Conference, in which this autonomy business is recognized. It will upset the whole matter.

DR. LINDER (Iowa): I have listened pretty nearly all the time since I came here, and while not very able for business, just at this time I decided to say a word. I am sure everyone present is seriously and honestly considering this matter and desires to do the thing which will be for the best. I see in this a danger which has impressed me more and more as this discussion has gone on. In the first place, when I joined the Methodist Protestant Church, I joined it as a member of that body, to be subject to its law and the underlying principle of our law is that we elect our representative bodies, and these bodies are duly and properly representative. Then we decide by vote and the majority vote governs the whole, and I feel myself unworthy of any degree of recognition, if I refuse to abide by that decision, for the simple reason that I joined the church understanding that I would be subject to its laws. Now, I cannot see why, if we believe that this union is right, if we believe in what our Commissioners have done, if we believe in these things—I cannot see why we cannot have enough confidence in this Special Commission and this Special United General Conference—I cannot see why we could not have enough confidence in them, to leave the matter that belongs to this particular resolution to those times and places and those men, and abide by the decision that shall be made by our representatives. If

Conferences get ready to merge. I submit that destroys the whole action. I am perfectly willing to refer it to this Commission if you think the Commission would so regard it.

THE PRESIDENT: It does not refer to the autonomy of the body in relation to the General Conference.

DR. LUCAS: For instance, in Pittsburgh we might have a United Protestant Church, and a Conference of the United Brethren Church working in the same territory with the Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Protestant—overlapping each other.

THE PRESIDENT: We have that between Pittsburgh and West Virginia.

DR. LUCAS: Is that fortunate or unfortunate? I submit this is not a merger at all. It simply means this that if the United Brethren are not ready to unite they must go ahead alone. I hope you will see that.

MR. WOODFORD: My impression of the item is that it simply refers to the autonomy of the two Conferences of our Churches. They are ready to merge, but I think this special item is to cover more specific cases.

THE SECRETARY: There are two or three Methodist Protestant Conferences that will be helped, I think, if we can adjust this matter in about this way. There may be some limits that it would be wise to place. If the Conference boundaries are adjusted by agreements made by the Conferences themselves it will help to solve the problem. I think in a very little while these splendid men would see the folly of overlapping and interlocking and they would very soon be ready, if no drastic action was taken, to complete the matter of merger, and very soon all the Conferences would come into the movement heartily. I believe if they might understand there was not to be any hasty, drastic action in this matter, it would help them to be in hearty accord with this movement, and for that reason I would like to have this Special Commission consider this matter. I am not opposed to referring it, I think it ought to be referred. I would not like to say to them, "Be sure and throw it out as unworthy," but I would like to have them consider it in view of the possible developments which may come. I would like to have it in the hands of the Special Commission for consideration.

M. R. SAIGEON (Michigan): It seems to me that the boundaries of the various Conferences might be wisely and properly left to be handled by our coming Joint General Conference and they can draw their lines as they see best.

DR. LUCAS: This to me is most vital. Now let me call attention to the fact that there is not a United Brethren Church in North Carolina, so why should they wait to find it? It doesn't affect them one iota. There are very few in Maryland—there are some, but very few. This raises all sorts of questions that local Conferences and Annual Conferences be allowed to do as they please, and if this action is to be taken by this Conference, I should like very much to record my vote against it. It isn't a Union, it is just a federation. We contemplated that in Chicago in the tri-church union movement and I sincerely hope that this body will not permit itself even to hint at such a thing as a merger without a merger, for that is practically what it is.

MR. WOODFORD: I think the only purpose of presenting the resolution has already been accomplished. I think that most of the members of this Special Commission are here and have heard what was said and they know what this resolution is and we can leave it to their judgment. I think that the mover of the motion ought to withdraw that item. Our Special Commission know how we feel.

DR. PERRY: If I am asked to withdraw that, as mover of the motion, I won't do so. It seems to me that the Representative from

and the President of the Muskingum Conference, Dr. Sheppard will be that committee.

DR. PERRY: I was going to ask, in order that we might not be delayed, that by consent whatever resolution these men report be incorporated in the minutes.

(Consent given.)

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will now read the minutes of today's session.

MR. MILLER: I would like to ask what has been done with Dr. Brown's paper and all that has been done thereto.

THE PRESIDENT: The present status is that the paper will appear with the report of the committee to which this paper was referred, and its action, and Dr. Brown's paper appears and the report of the committee.

MR. MILLER: What will be done with the paper that Colonel Barge submitted and all pertaining thereto?

THE SECRETARY: The first paper, which was presented by Colonel Barge, had been expunged with all reference thereto; but was taken from the table today, ordered to be printed in the minutes and again placed on the table; the second paper stands on the record with the action of the committee on that paper.

MR. MILLER: The first paper has reference to Col. Barge's individual opinion about the legality of the call of this Conference?

THE SECRETARY: Yes.

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary will now proceed.

(The Secretary then finishes the reading of the minutes.)

A MEMBER: I move the adoption of the minutes.

(Seconded.)

The motion was put by the President and was carried unanimously.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: Will it be necessary to fix the time of adjourning—I know there is a reference to it.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I move we adjourn to meet according to the prescribed resolution adopted by this Conference.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM PITTSBURGH: I move when we adjourn we adjourn to meet at the call of the President.

REPRESENTATIVE FROM MUSKINGUM: I think that is a redundant action since we have already provided for that.

THE PRESIDENT: The action we have taken is the call of the President and with the possible contingency that this be issued by the new Commission. I think what is prescribed here is preferable.

THE PRESIDENT: All in favor of the motion say "aye".

(Carried.)

THE PRESIDENT: Are we ready to adjourn? What is your pleasure?

MR. PERKINS: Is the business of the Conference completed?

THE PRESIDENT: I believe it is.

A MEMBER: I move we adjourn.

(Seconded.)

THE PRESIDENT: We don't want you to hurry away. Let us come up about the altar a moment. Let us sing and have a hand-shaking before we are dismissed.

(Conference closes with singing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds", and prayer and benediction by the President.)

(Adjourns.)

LYMAN E. DAVIS,
President.

CHARLES H. BECK,
Secretary.

we want anything at all, we must remember we can't have everything—there must be some things that must be laid down. The general principle of union is desired by everyone, and so I believe the thing to do is drop the matter here and simply trust the Commission for the things we want them to do, and trust to Almighty God, Our Father, and to the good sense of those who shall compose the Joint Conference, for the disposal of this matter when the time shall come. Now, this is the way I see it, and if we are going to bring up everything we want now, we might just as well drop the matter.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I move we table that item.

(Seconded.)

The motion was put by the President and carried.

MR. PICKENS: Was there more than one item of that tabled? That carries with it the whole paper.

THE PRESIDENT: We separated the paper in two items.

MR. WOODFORD: I would like to call attention of the Conference that this ought to be corrected in the Report of the Committee on Church Union. We have "Our Commission on Church Union appointed authorized by the General Conference, 1912". I think it should be amended to read, "Our Commission on Church Union authorized by this General Conference in session in 1912."

THE PRESIDENT: I think we can have that done by common consent.

DR. PERRY: Well, I was going to make a motion and wish to speak to that motion. I observed there was a good deal of unanimity in the tabling of this resolution, and I understand from the parliamentary ruling that the whole resolution is now on the table.

THE PRESIDENT: I didn't remember that it was a signed resolution.

DR. PERRY: I am going to make a motion. I am quite as well convinced that we are making a mistake in tabling this as some others are convinced we are making a mistake in acting on it. We all voted for the union and are interested in it, but the best way to accomplish a union is not to pass drastic measures but use salutary measures, going step by step, until the final step is reached. I believe this is a way to bring certain factions who are not ready to come in. Therefore, I was ready to see this pass. I believe it should be passed. I think the interpretation placed on the word "autonomy" is an exaggerated interpretation. Had you noticed the phraseology you would have seen that it is not relative to conferences in general, but in specific cases only. The Conferences are not left independent, but they go with the union into the great church, but in specific places there is left a degree of autonomy and freedom in order that these people be got further. Therefore, I move that the resolution be taken from the table.

THE PRESIDENT: The sense of the Conference was to send that to the Committee. If you take it from the table you can express that and send it wherever you wish. I hope you will at least pass this motion and then do as you please with it.

Motion to take from the table was carried. Item 1 referring to name was referred to new Commission; Item 2, referring to Conference boundaries, was stricken out.

A REPRESENTATIVE: I ask that the President appoint a special committee to prepare a resolution on the death of Dr. Jennings and Dr. Helmick.

DR. PERRY: I was wondering whether that breaks our rule at all—we have been holding ourselves strictly to one purpose.

THE PRESIDENT: This is strictly a matter of memorial. It is not the transaction of business.

The motion was put by the President and carried.

THE PRESIDENT: I will appoint Dr. Stephens, and Prof. Hess,

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS.

REV. MARTIN LUTHER JENNINGS, D. D. LL. D.

In the death of Rev. Martin Luther Jennings, D. D., LL. D., one of the Commissioners from the Methodist Protestant Church on Church Union, the church at large has suffered the loss of one of her leaders and the Muskingum Conference, of which he was a member, one of her valued counselors. His going away seemed untimely to us. There seemed much for him yet to do. But, obedient to the irrevocable summons, he turned aside from his labors and entered into rest. He was progressive. Living in the present, he wisely profited from the mistakes of yesterday, while he planned and wrought for tomorrow. In many respects, he was in advance of his brethren, and was a prophet, gladly heard, of better days and better things. His counsel was valued and had considerable to do with the shaping of his Conference's policies. He was a brother, respected, loved, revered, cultured, refined, scholarly, he was deemed worthy of the highest positions of honor, responsibility and trust. In a marked degree, he has helped in making our history. He rests from his labors, and his works follow after him.

C. E. SHEPPARD
D. S. STEPHENS
A. F. HESS.

DR. D. G. HELMICK.

Whereas, Death has caused the removal of Dr. D. G. Helmick from among us; and,

Whereas, Dr. D. G. Helmick has for years been prominent in the General Councils of the Church, giving when called upon, his services which were always marked by a high degree of clear judgment, deep insight and unselfish interest, to the progressive and constructive direction of the affairs of the Church he loved and the cause of the God he served; therefore.

Resolved, That we express our profound sorrow in the loss which has come to his family, his many and varied life-long friends and the Methodist Protestant Church in its local and general work, caused by his death. Further,

Resolved, That we make permanent our appreciation of the Man, the Preacher, and the Counsellor by submitting to record our estimate of the services of one who served so well, especially in the capacity of Commissioner on Church Union.

C. E. SHEPPARD,
D. S. STEPHENS,
A. F. HESS.